

Peel Hall Primary School

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Headteacher : Mr M D Hallam

15th May 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

I am writing to you because your child/children are in one of the following year groups: Nursery, Reception, Year 1 or Year 6.

As you are aware the Government has asked schools to prepare for allowing these year groups back into school from June 1st 2020. As Head Teacher of Peel Hall Primary School, I have a legislative responsibility to make sure that school will be open for these year groups, but before giving details of what steps we are taking, I want to offer some reassurance that my first and foremost priorities are the well-being and safety of all of the children, parents/carers and staff.

The school, since March, has still remained open for some children, for various reasons and staff that can be at work, have been coming into school on rotas to teach the children, not just look after them. The system we have had in place has worked very well for ensuring that all children, parents/carers and staff have been protected from any undue risks. I am being totally honest, when I say I can give a 100% guarantee, that because all children staff and parents have worked together and followed strict guidelines, that all those in school have remained healthy and well.

In order to achieve the above, the following measures were put in place:

- Parents were asked to drop off and pick up their children, but to remain outside the building and to socially distance themselves from other parents/carers at these times.
- Children when entering school, have been coming in and washing their hands immediately.
- They have then gone to their learning areas, which have desks placed 2 metres apart.
- Where siblings have been coming in to school together, they have been allowed to sit together, so as to support them socially and emotionally.
- The number of desks had been reduced to approximately 9 in each class and children were working initially at individual tables. However, once the groups had been established, the children have been taught in small groups, but they have remained with the same group and teaching staff as far as possible.
- Within the teaching groups, it is impossible to socially distance the children all the time, and it would be cruel to do so.

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However, further minimisation of risks has been implemented by:

- Children and staff, regularly washing their hands throughout the day.
- Resources that have been used, have been washed and disinfected prior to and after use.
- The children have had lunch in their learning areas which have been cleaned before and after lunch.
- Children have had playtimes and lunchtimes with the same group of children from their learning environments.
- Children have been encouraged to "Catch it, Bin it and Kill it," by using tissues.
- Learning environments have been regularly cleaned throughout the day.

Due to the aforementioned being implemented and everyone working together to follow the procedures, all children, parents/carers and staff have remained well and safe.

As we prepare to reopen school for our Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 children, we will continue to implement the above, but our COVID-19 risk assessments, which are working documents, will give further information about the further steps we intend to take with regard to operational procedures when the school opens to a wider range of pupils.

I am hoping that this letter reassures lots of you about how important your child/children's well-being and safety is taken by all staff at school.

If you go onto the School website, you will also find our COVID-19 Risk Assessment in full.

I will be contacting parents nearer the time, once details have been finalised about how we will be implementing the reintegration of children in these classes, back in to school. Be reassured though, that coming back will be staggered for each year group, so as to ensure the continued safety and well-being of all our children, parents/carers and staff.

Kind regards

Mr M.D. Hallam
Headteacher