



Letter for Year 2, Year 3, Year 4 and Year 5 Parents / Carers

In response to the government's aim of making a cautious phased return to schools, at Eastlea we have been having a steady plan of expanding our numbers whilst keeping group sizes small enough to ensure the highest levels of safety which we can in each room.

Following the latest update yesterday it has been recognised that primary schools in England will be unable to receive ALL pupils back in ALL classes before the summer – something we had known for a long time due to the limits to group size required in order to ensure appropriate social distancing. However, it was also stated that schools who do have the capacity to bring back more children in smaller class sizes can do so if they are able to before the summer holidays. **At Eastlea we do have some spare capacity** and therefore need to find out possible numbers of families who, if we can accommodate them, would wish their children to return to school for the last four weeks of term.

In line with the plans we have successfully put in place for other year groups, our aim would be to welcome back pupils from Y2/Y3/Y4/Y5 from w/b 22nd June and it would likely involve children attending school for 2 days per week (Monday/Tuesday or Thursday/Friday) with a deep clean day in between groups on Wednesdays.

Before we can go any further with these plans we need to know how many children we are likely to need to accommodate, so would appreciate your response to the following question by the end of this week.

Please send a message to staff via Seesaw or the school Facebook account/email as soon as possible if you have a child in Year 2, Year 3, Year 4 or Year 5 to let us whether you:

- a. would definitely want your child to be in school part time from 22nd June IF we can accommodate them**

- b. would definitely not be sending your child to school from 22nd June due to shielding/self-isolation or other safety concerns**

Only when we have the above information can we plan more seriously what we will be able to offer to those who do wish their children to be in school. IF we can arrange for small enough group sizes and IF we can staff this appropriately, then we will confirm with you next week the arrangements for how this will work in practice. Arrangements for children of key workers/vulnerable families will still be in place, although some groups may change to allow children to be in their 'class groups'.

As stated in previous letters, many of you will be anxious about a return for your child(ren) and will be balancing their/your desire to return to Eastlea versus concerns about their safety. We fully understand this and are aware that parents may not want their children to be in school for the last 4 weeks of term. If this is the decision you make it has been stated that parents/carers will not be fined for keeping their children off school at the current time.

If you are unsure and wish to discuss this further to find out more information then please ring me in school today, Thursday or Friday.

N.B. Online activities shared via Seesaw and/or work packs will still be provided for those who choose not to send their child back to school using the successful systems established by staff over recent weeks.

Yours sincerely,

Miss E Beeston

Head Teacher