

Green Lane
Barnard Castle
DL12 8LG

Tel: 01833 690298
Fax 01833 690316
Email: greenlane@durhamlearning.net
Website: www.greenlane.durham.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mr R Goffee



21 May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Green Lane Reopening Plan and Final Decision Request

We have tried to put a plan in place that puts children, families and staff's welfare and health at its heart. The school has been receiving new guidance and risk assessment documents on a daily basis since I wrote to you last week and those have all been taken into account in preparing the documents attached. Can I thank those of you who completed last week's survey – whilst we cannot respond to all your thoughts and comments directly rest assured that they have been listened to and they have guided the direction our plan has taken. This letter gives you that plan and asks you to make a **final decision** based on it.

I want to be as open with you all as possible, you are being asked to make a difficult decision and I hope the information attached will help you. Whatever decision you come to will be supported by us, if you wish to send your child in we will support them and do our very best to keep them and yourselves safe, if you decide to keep your child at home then that is your decision and we will respect it fully. Rest assured home learning and well-being support will continue for those remaining at home.

I'm sending you our complete plan as well as a shorter guide. I'm sending you the full document because reopening is so complex and so detailed that I believe you need to see the full picture. School will be a very different place with children kept in small groups that must not be allowed to mix, having breaktimes within their own group, having lunch in their own group and being taught by a small dedicated teaching team. It is still Team GL though and underlying it all will be the care and compassion our team always delivers.

We now need parents in **Early Years, Year 1 and Year 6** to tell us for definite what their **final decisions** are around sending their children into school. This is so we can organise the groups that I mentioned above. Other year groups do not need to complete this new survey, could I please ask you to complete it by 2pm on the 27th May. **Here is the link to it:**

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=Uv_fRWSDc02_Oo-YvfENh8sLe1WHgYtFpzsRd6T6DLZUMDRWN01aVIFZWUFXWEEExNEZRQUEyRFNESi4u

If you change your mind either way in the coming days then please email using the address above and Miss Hall will make the necessary changes.

This is not the way the governors, my team or myself would choose our school to be like, this isn't the way we want children to be re-invited back to school and it certainly isn't why any of us went into teaching but we all know the national situation and what we are facing. Our number one priority is to **keep everyone as safe as we can**.

You have my complete respect for all you have been doing at home and my great gratitude to those of you who have written in to thank us for the support our school has delivered. It means a great deal.

Best wishes and look after each other.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mr R Goffee'.

Mr R Goffee
Headteacher