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PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Re: Plans for opening to increased numbers

Dear Parents, Carers and Community of Park Primary,

As another week passes, I will start with my well wishes to you all and my ongoing hopes that you are staying safe and happy in these challenging times.

As most of you will know, we have been open throughout the closure period to children of parents who are considered to be key workers and those who are deemed vulnerable. On average we have had about 25 children on site daily. Even though it is half term next week, we will continue to be open for these children (apart from Monday 25th which is a Bank Holiday) and we will still be providing food parcels. I would like to take the opportunity to thank our amazing staff for all they have done for our community at this time.

As per the Government's intention we are now beginning to consider how we might put plans into place to allow us to increase the numbers of children that we have in school every day. As stated last week, these plans are complex and need deep consideration; we have therefore decided that we will definitely **not** be ready to begin to increase our numbers in the week commencing 1st June.

I know some of you will be keen to hear me speak of a date but I feel very strongly that a fixed date should not be our focus; instead we need to work towards having plans in place which are manageable and we must be guided by local data and science. We must also be creative and flexible in approach and we must take our school context into account. As we gradually increase our numbers, we wish to ensure that we can provide a meaningful education in a different way; we want to do this properly and in the safest way possible with the year groups who we are confident will adapt to the change most readily.

Again, as stated last week, any attempt at physical distancing in a school environment poses many difficulties; we must assess whether it will be possible to gradually increase the number of pupils attending whilst continuing to place the physical and mental health and safety of pupils, staff and families at the heart of our actions.

Thank you for bearing with us; I will be in touch again on Tuesday 2nd June.

Happy Eid to those of you who are celebrating this weekend; please stay safe in your celebrations. Please also be reminded that next week, as it is half term, there will be no online learning, groups or calls from teachers.

Synopsis of content: Park Primary School will **not** be increasing its numbers in w.c.1st June but we are actively working on plans to increase our numbers gradually over time.