

DHO/CAS

11<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Following the Prime Minister's statement last night, I know there will be many questions which you will be wanting to ask and worries you would like to clarify. We also have many questions which we are waiting for clarification about.

At the moment there is **no change to the ongoing guidance about schools**. We will carry on providing work either online or through paper packs for your children as we have been over the weeks of the lockdown. We will also continue to provide childcare for those workers critical to the Covid-19 response, who are unable to safely care for their children at home – we are clear that the message is still that it is safer to be at home.

As yet, we have not received any further information from the Department for Education to support us in implementing the gradual reopening of our schools for some year groups described by the Prime Minister last night. We expect to receive further clarification from the government shortly, hopefully with ideas on how we can work towards achieving what we all desperately want – to see children back in our schools.

We need clear guidance to enable us to plan for how we will be able to reopen for certain year groups in a safe, controlled way. In particular, we will be looking for clear guidance on what measures we will need to take in order to social distance in school to keep our children, families and staff safe and well. For example, we might start to phase groups of children returning, stagger start times or introduce one-way systems on our sites – at the moment we need time to plan what this will look like. Please be reassured that we will not be reopening until we are completely prepared and have communicated the steps we've taken to you.

As always, we will do our very best to keep you informed but for now, please try not to worry. Our plan for now is to continue to provide activities for learning at home, keep contact with you, our children and families, and continue to support each other in these difficult and uncertain times. Your Academy Principal will communicate with you further once we have our plans in place and are completely ready to take the next steps.

Yours faithfully,

Mr Horigan  
Executive Principal (Primary)  
Maltby Learning Trust