



## Red Rose Primary School

21st May 2020

Dear Parents / Carers

### RE: Possible wider reopening of school to more pupils in June

Following the recent government announcement regarding a phased return to school for some pupils, we have been working very closely with the Local Authority to ensure a safe return for children and staff at our school. All Durham schools have been provided with a risk assessment, which is designed to put the health and safety of children first, and ensure that each school mitigates, to the best of their ability, any risks associated with a phased return. Working with the Local Authority, we have decided that the approach we will take best suits the needs of children and families at Red Rose.

We will not be putting any pressure on parents to send their child to school and the government has stated that there will be no penalty for parents who do not send their child into school. When you feel it is right to send your child to school, we will be ready to welcome them. At this moment, school reopening is still dependent on the government meeting their 5 tests.

Over the last week we have been working very hard to put together a detailed plan for reopening. This includes:

- A staggered start / end to the school day to allow for social distancing on the school playground.
- Group sizes of **no more than 15 pupils** with a teacher and where possible, an additional adult (*This may not be their usual teacher*).
- Individual designated desks and equipment for all pupils, 2m apart. (all groups)
- Removal of additional furniture and resources from classrooms.
- Social distancing will be actively encouraged throughout the school day.
- No mixing of groups during break times / lunchtime.
- Anyone displaying symptoms will be sent home immediately and asked to access a test. In the event of a positive test, the whole group will be required to self isolate for 14 days.
- Frequent staggered toilet and hand washing times throughout the day.
- Hand sanitiser and additional soap /paper towels will be available for hand washing.
- Signage around school, reminding children to wash hands, observe social distancing etc
- Increased cleaning both during and at the end of the school day.
- Packed lunches only (these will ideally be provided by the school kitchen but can be brought in from home in a washable container /disposable bag). Lunch will be eaten within the classroom. Children will need to bring a drink of water for during the day and at lunchtime.
- No breakfast club or after school clubs as we are not able to prevent children of different groups mixing
- No parents / visitors (except those connected with health & safety) admitted into the school building.
- Personal protective equipment (PPE) will not be worn in school, as directed by the government, unless someone shows signs of COVID-19 or where this is part of a child's usual care.
- Uniform to be worn - this should be removed once home and washed for return the next day. Trainers should be worn as the children will be encouraged to be active during the day.
- No equipment / bags / PE kit, and ideally no coats to be brought into school.
- Windows and doors will be open to improve ventilation

**Aim High Be Proud**

Respect Excellence Determination Responsibility Opportunity Support for Others Equality

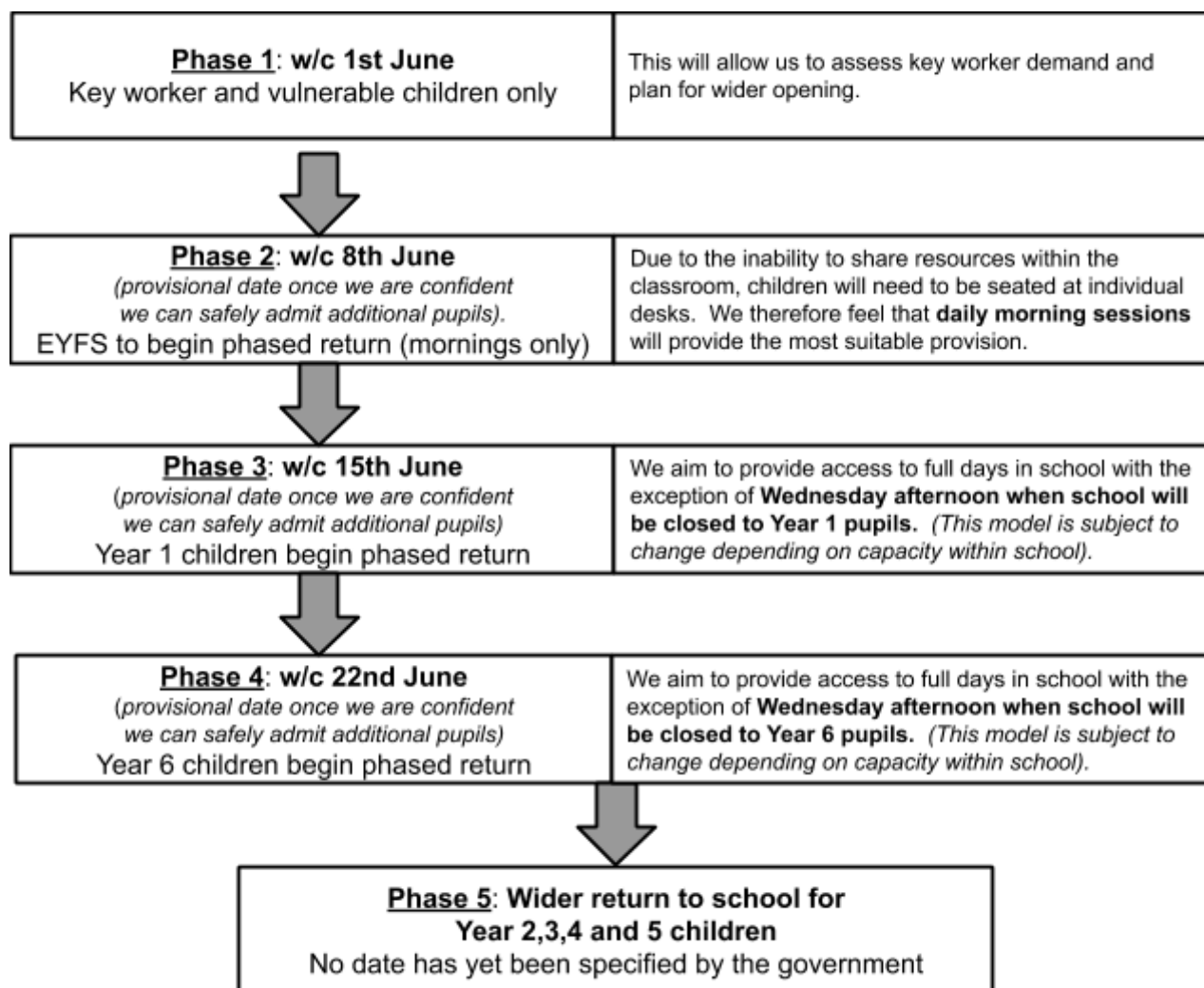
[www.redroseprimaryschool.com](http://www.redroseprimaryschool.com)

## Red Rose Primary School

Whilst we have been asked to plan for the possible wider reopening of school to EYFS, Year 1 and Year 6 pupils, we have been instructed by the Local Authority to **prioritise places for children of key workers and those children who are vulnerable** in the first instance.

Over the last few days, we have received a high number of requests for key worker places. **The ability to accommodate EYFS, Year 1 and Year 6 pupils in school safely, and how often, will depend on the number of key worker places required.** Any parents requiring, or anticipating that they may need a key worker place from 1st June, will need to email requests to myself at [a.brinton@redroseprimaryschool.com](mailto:a.brinton@redroseprimaryschool.com) **as soon as possible or at the latest, by the 31st May** to request a place. This will then allow us to plan for phase 2. Unfortunately, we will not be able to guarantee any requests made after this date.

Please find below a flow chart setting out our provisional timescale for wider reopening:



Further information on:

- Group teacher
- Group members
- Staggered start time / finish
- School day

will be sent out to parents the week before their proposed return to school.

**Aim High Be Proud**

Respect Excellence Determination Responsibility Opportunity Support for Others Equality

[www.redroseprimaryschool.com](http://www.redroseprimaryschool.com)



## Red Rose Primary School

### Home School

Parents have quite rightly asked about our home school provision from June 1st. It is our intention to continue with the same format of home schooling for all year groups from 1st June. We do not want any child to be at a disadvantage because they are not able to return to school. This is something which we will need to continually review, but we hope that we have a sustainable model where this can be achieved. As it is half term next week, there will be no home school.

Finally, I would like to take the opportunity on behalf of myself and governors to thank all staff at Red Rose for their professionalism and dedication over the last few difficult and challenging months. Staff have not only worked in school, when the clear message for all was; to stay home - stay safe, but have also provided high quality homeschooling and support for our children whilst trying to balance their own family circumstances. Governors have particularly asked that I make parents aware of their appreciation of this hard work and the fact that staff have willingly worked over the Easter holiday, and the coming half term holiday, to support the parents of Key workers. I am very proud of our team and their continual support and positivity - thank you.

I hope this letter has provided you with some of the detail you needed around the wider reopening of school. On **June 1st** we will resend the questionnaire for EYFS / Y1 & Y6 parents to complete to confirm whether their child will or will not be attending school.

Hopefully by the 1st of June we will all have a much clearer understanding of the scientific evidence supporting the reopening of schools and have the assurances we are all looking for.

Have a restful and enjoyable half term

Mrs A Brinton  
Headteacher

**Aim High Be Proud**

*Respect Excellence Determination Responsibility Opportunity Support for Others Equality*

[www.redroseprimaryschool.com](http://www.redroseprimaryschool.com)