



LING MOOR
A PRIORY ACADEMY

11th June 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Parent Update

I hope that this letter finds you well. I wanted to thank you again for all of the hard work that you are doing at home with your children – keeping them safe, happy and engaged. From personal experience, I know how challenging home learning can be and I am immensely proud of how our community continues to show that it is the very best.

Many of you will have seen the recent government announcement regarding the continued phased re-opening of primary schools. As part of the announcement, the government has asked Headteachers to explore the opportunity to open their schools to further year groups beyond Reception, Year 1, Year 6 and those children who have parents designated as key workers.

At present, there are no further plans to open the Academy to pupils in other year groups prior to September. In order to keep the children safe, we are working to government guidance that limits the number of children in each class and with each teacher. In order to provide a safe environment for the children currently able to come to school, every member of staff and every classroom is being utilised. For the Academy to have more children back prior to the start of the summer holidays, we would simply have to double the number of classrooms we have and double the number of teachers.

As more people return to work, we are coming under increased pressure to provide more places for those families where a parent is designated as a key worker. The guidance states that this has to be our priority. If you qualify as a key worker and would like provision, please do email the Academy if you have not already used this provision. We will be asking you for confirmation that your job has key worker status.

In order to help us plan for the remainder of the summer term, we are asking all parents of children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 to confirm whether they intend for their children to return prior to the end of the academic year. If your child is able to attend but you are currently choosing for them to remain at home, please can you email the Academy to confirm your intentions. For those of you who have already done this, thank you.

There is nothing more we want than to welcome all of the children back to Ling Moor. However, we must work to the government guidance. We are planning for a full return for all pupils in September and we will communicate with you our plans as soon as possible. However, we still have to wait for clarity from the government so that we

EMPOWERING POTENTIAL

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only open for all when it is deemed safe to do so. The important thing is to make sure that when the government states we can return to normal, the Academy is ready to welcome the children back. I can assure you that we are all working hard to make this happen. Fingers crossed that this will be September.

I also wanted to take this opportunity to publicly thank all of the staff at Ling Moor for the tremendous work that they have been doing ever since the Academy closed. There is a perception from some that schools have been closed and school staff have been at home on holiday. This is absolutely not the case. The Ling Moor team have not stopped since the lockdown began. They have worked with the passion, love and care that you would expect. Each and every one of them has gone above and beyond their role, volunteering whenever asked and been available in times when they usually would be with their families. They truly are an inspiration to work with.

As always, if your child would like a call from their teacher, this is something we can happily arrange. If you need us at all and you're finding home schooling a challenge, we are here to help as well. I would as ever be grateful if you could share the letter below with your child.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards

John Sisman
Headteacher