



Blanford Mere Nursery and Primary School

Mimosa Walk, Kingswinford, West Midlands DY6 7EA

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Wednesday 10th June 2020

Dear Parents,

You may be aware that Gavin Williamson, Secretary of State for Education, addressed the House of Commons at 1:30pm yesterday afternoon.

During his statement he acknowledged that the Government have abandoned their plan for schools to open to Years 2, 3, 4 and 5 for four weeks before the summer holidays.

Williamson also announced that the government continues to work on the next steps so that those schools that have capacity, can accept more children in reduced class sizes. Under current social distancing restrictions we have had to re-organise classrooms to ensure that tables are placed two metres apart.

This has drastically reduced the capacity of our classrooms, as I'm sure that you will understand. We have 82 pupils from Year Rec, Year 1, Year 6 and the Key Worker group in school, meaning that we have little spare space or capacity.

Under Government guidance we should plan for all Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 pupils to return and provide Key Worker childcare places, however, these groups alone would mean we need space for 163 pupils. We now face the situation of being unable to offer any further places to children who have not already returned to school.

Due to this, it will be impossible, moving forwards, for us to open safely more widely and offer any face-to-face contact for Year 2, 3, 4 or 5 pupils whilst the current social distancing rules are maintained.

We understand that this news will be disappointing to many children and parents; it is also disappointing to us. However, all along our priority has been reopening and operating the school safely.

All staff are now currently teaching groups of children full time. We will continue to manage the home learning published on our website, updating this weekly. Staff will also continue to set work on work on Spelling Shed and Mathletics weekly.

As always, I know no more than you do and have no advance warning. There are no further plans in place, other than those already communicated with you because we have no new Government guidance and are unable to plan any further at this stage.

Yours sincerely,
Mrs Miller and Miss Stanton