

Dear Parents and Carers

Circulation:

Parents/carers of children in Nursery/ Reception/ Year 1 and 6 (saying 'Yes' to offer) and children of Key Worker

The Department for Education announced that it had asked schools to help prepare for the wider opening of year groups beyond the current places confirmed for Key Workers from the 1st June 2020.

In the Romero Catholic Academy, the decision to open to wider year groups sits with The Board of Directors in conjunction with the Academy Committee of each school. First and foremost, the Governance place the well-being and safety of **all** in our school community of paramount importance.

The decision by the Board will be subject to Ministers who will make the final decision on whether to press ahead with its schools reopening plan at a meeting to 'review the latest science' on May 28th. The return of pupils (beyond Key Workers) into June will be delayed if the evidence does not support the decision. In addition to this, the Governance for each school, needs to consider the risks. The risk assessment therefore focuses on actions that are reasonably practicable to implement, that will reduce the risk of transmission of Covid19 as a consequence of re-opening schools to a minimal level. This needs to be done carefully and thoroughly engaging with all stakeholders.

Our priority will always be the health and welfare of all members of our school community.

Reset and Recovery

Our school has been open to a small group of children of those identified as Key Workers. We are also committed to providing opportunities for Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 children to come into school at a point in June. To enable us to consider opening up to other year groups, The Board of Directors must carry our decisions that include:

- Conducting a detailed review of our site and a specific risk assessment aimed at mitigating risks associated with COVID-19 transmission. This will include solutions such as smaller teaching groups; maintenance of social distancing rules; increased cleaning routines etc
- Working with our staff to understand their views and concerns to ensure that we have a very clear picture of who can be in school and who will need to continue to work from home.
- Working with you as parents and carers to understand your concerns and views so that we take this into consideration in our planning.

The decision to open to wider year group will be subject to:

- The 'latest science' that is informing the Ministers and their ability to confirm to schools that we are safe to open.
- Completion of Risk Management with all stakeholders across the school including staff in the week June 1st – 4th 2020 and a sign off by the Academy Committee and Board of Directors after consultation.

Communications

As the developments in Guidance change daily, we are populating information as we make our preparations on this website on behalf of the eight schools here:

<https://romeromac.com/resetandrecovery/>



Arrangements

Across the Romero Primary schools we have adopted a similar approach to the DfE guidance which has been influenced by the partnership working across all schools in the city towards a Coventry model with agreed principles.

- All staff and pupils will adhere to social distancing as far as possible in all classroom and school environments as far as possible.
- Where possible, **8- 10 pupils per classroom** will be assigned to a ‘Bubble’. Each Bubble will have assigned staff that will be limited as much as possible to that group of children. This is lower than the Guidance which states groups should be no more than 15.
- We will minimise the number of pupils that each staff member has contact with.
- We are taking a staggered, slow and steady approach for pupils to return to gradually build up confidence across schools (staff, children/young people, parents/carers).

When we are *ready* to open up to Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 the model for each class/ year group will be as follows:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Group 1 (N R 1 6) 8- 10 children	Group 1 (N R 1 6) 8- 10 children	• Cleaning to take place	Group 2 (N R 1 6) 8- 10 children	Group 2 (N R 1 6) 8- 10 children
Key Worker children in a separate bubble				

Children in N R Y1 and Y6 (not Key Worker children)

As a school, we can only offer two days to the children in this phase of the Reset and Recovery. Your child/ren will be in school either a Monday **and** Tuesday **or** Thursday **and** Friday. This is so we can make a slow and steady approach to bringing back our school community adhering to the DfE Guidance. **This will be reviewed regularly.**

Draft Timetable

This is subject to review as detailed above. DfE Guidance is following the Science and therefore this can change on a daily basis. We reserve the right to review any start dates of year groups in light of the guidance that we receive nationally and the need to keep our school community safe. There may be a need to push back any of these dates.

Week beginning

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|-----------------------------------|--|
| ○ Mon 1 st June | No Key Worker children on this date |
| ○ Tues 2 nd – 5th June | Key Worker children only (this is confirmed) |
| ○ Mon 8 th June | Key Worker children (this is confirmed) |
| | If the Board of Directors are satisfied that Risk Management is in place, the school will begin in this week with Reception and Year 1, then Year 6 and Nursery children in a staggered start. |
| | This information will be communicated beginning of June. |
| | We will confirm as soon as possible. |

The Board of Directors retain the power to make decisions about what is safe in our schools. We will be constantly reviewing the government guidance and our own practice and experiences. Where it is judged that guidelines cannot be safely followed or risk appropriately managed, the decision may be taken to further restrict opening or revert to closure until such time as these matters are resolved.

Yours sincerely



Principal

Catholic Senior Executive Leader

