



**NEWHALL**

PRIMARY ACADEMY AND NURSERY

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Headteacher: Mrs Debbie Gayler BA (Hons) QTS, NPQH  
Nursery Manager: Mrs Stef Montgomery BA (Hons) EYP

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27<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this finds you all safe and well. I am writing to inform you of the progress made towards the Government request for schools to reopen as educational establishments for Nursery, Reception and Yr 1 pupils. As you are aware, no school within the REAch2 Academy Trust will be opening before **8<sup>th</sup> June** at the earliest in order to ensure that there has been sufficient time to take every safety precaution reasonably possible.

The REAch2 Academy Trust has supported the school in implementing a robust risk assessment process to allow us to carefully consider the potential risks of welcoming pupils back to school, and how best these can be managed. Our school will only reopen if the risk assessment gives us assurance that it is safe to do so.

#### **Arrangements for re-opening:**

**IF** we are given authorisation by Trustees to open on 8<sup>th</sup> June, along with other schools in the Trust **we will be opening to one additional year group each week. This will enable us to manage safety considerations as effectively as possible as we open up the school to more pupils. Our plan at present is to open to Year One from 8<sup>th</sup> June 2020.**

Following this, our risk assessments will be reviewed each week by Trust Executives, including the number of pupils and available staffing. We will only open to additional year groups where school leaders and Trust Executives are fully satisfied that it is as safe as reasonably possible to do so.

We are currently hoping to open to the following year groups:

- Reception on 15<sup>th</sup> June 2020
- Bluebell on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2020
- Snowdrop on 29<sup>th</sup> June 2020
- Blossom on 6<sup>th</sup> July 2020

However, we will only be in a position to confirm that we are open to these additional year groups following our weekly risk assessment.

**When it can be confirmed that we will be in a position to open to any of these additional year groups we will inform parents as soon as possible.**



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Please Note: We will NOT be operating any wrap around care during the phased re-opening. Newhall will only be open from 8.30 until 3.10 to enable staggered entry and exit times. Further specific information will follow regarding the arrangements for re-opening once we receive confirmation from the Trust.

### Arrangements for admitting pupils

We understand that, for parents of children in Nursery, Reception and Year 1 the decision about whether to return your child to school is a difficult one. Some parents have asked whether they can say 'no' now and then change their mind later on in the term. In order for us to maintain the safety of all our children and staff, it is important that we only re-admit children to school if we have enough notice to ensure we are prepared for the number of children that will be turning up to school.

Therefore, when the school re-opens, we will only be able to admit children from Nursery, Reception and Year 1 on a Monday, having received notification on the previous Wednesday that a parent wishes their child to return to school. This notification period is to give us the necessary time to review all risk documentation, staff rotas, in-school organisation and health and safety requirements to safely cater for additional pupil numbers. To support with this process, below is a table indicating the dates by which we expect to receive notification from parents about their child's attendance:

Notification by:	Starting Date:
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> June
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> June	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> June
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> June	Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> June	Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> June
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> July	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> July
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> July	Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> July

If you decide you wish for your child to attend school, please notify the school by email on [office@newhallacademy.org](mailto:office@newhallacademy.org). We will respond to you as soon as we can to confirm that we can accommodate your child. **Please do not bring your child to the school unannounced at any time, as we will unfortunately have to turn you and your child away.**

Alongside education for Nursery, Reception and Year 1, we will continue to operate a childcare facility for:

- Children of critical workers
- Vulnerable pupils: those with an EHCP, with a Social Worker, or those with vulnerability to whom the school have decided to offer a childcare place.

In addition, we will also continue to provide home learning activities for the following groups:

- Children in Nursery, Reception and Year 1 not attending school.

### Leadership Update

As you are all aware, I was due to leave at the beginning of May, but it was decided that to maintain consistency during this challenging period, I would stay on until the school re-opened. Charmaine Ward, the Headteacher at Water Lane Academy in Harlow, will be the Interim Headteacher at Newhall from 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020 to support the school through the re-opening process.



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I would like to thank you all for your support over the last two and a half years. It has been an absolute privilege to be part of the Newhall journey and I am going to miss the children and staff very much. I hope that I will be able to return in September to say goodbye to everyone properly.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Debbie Gayler". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath.

Mrs Debbie Gayler  
Headteacher



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