



Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope everyone is well and would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued support. I fully understand the different challenges everyone will face when balancing all aspects of life in a very difficult time. This situation has presented many new situations for us all but the wonderful messages and conversations about the children and their work over the last 8 weeks have been very special. I will continue to say thank you to you all and say how very proud all the staff and I are of all the children in our school.

As you will be aware on Sunday evening the Prime Minister updated the country on the Government plan for the months ahead. Further guidance was then released last night about procedures for all aspects of society when the **Government decide the time is right to change the current situation** and take the next step. Over the coming weeks, I will be working within the Government guidance and recommendations to prepare and plan for our school as we have done at every point of this situation.

Currently, we are in **step 1** of the Government plan and our setting remains open for emergency care for key workers, home schooling for all children and support for all families. The key **change** this week is regarding education and childcare settings being open to **priority groups** including **key workers critical to the COVID 19 response** and **vulnerable children**. The Government states that;

“Now that we have made progress in reducing the transmission of coronavirus we are encouraging all eligible children to attend – it is no longer necessary for parents of eligible children to keep them at home if they can. In particular, as per the [existing guidance on vulnerable children and young people](#), vulnerable children of all year groups continue to be expected and encouraged to attend educational provision where it is appropriate for them to do so.”

If you feel this may apply to you please email into school at bursar@aughtonchristchurch.lancs.sch.uk requesting a place at our emergency care.

The government have also set out what would happen if we **are able** to move to **step 2**. Part of the Government’s plan in **step 2** is for primary school children to return to school from June 1st **if** the Government feel it is **safe** and **possible** to do so at that point. Initially, the government has identified **Reception, Year 1** and **Year 6** to **possibly return** to school as part of the plan and **potentially** all primary school children before summer. I believe it is important to stress that this remains a **possibility not a certainty** and over the coming weeks I will be planning to ensure we will be ready to work within all Government guidance for our school. **If** the Government decide we are ready to take this next step I will ensure everyone is fully aware of how it will look for your children. I have attached **4** links to relevant Government guidance which you may feel useful in supporting an understanding of the plan for schools and answers to questions you may have. Please click on the links below to read these.

[Guidance for parents and carers as schools and other education settings in England open to more children and young people](#)

[Actions for education and childcare settings to prepare for wider opening from 1 June](#)

[Implementing protective measures in education and childcare settings](#)

[The UK Government’s COVID-19 recovery strategy](#)

Finally I’d like to wish you and your family well at this time. I’d also like to remind everyone that we are here if you have any concerns or questions. Please do not hesitate to get in touch and I look forward to keeping you informed in the coming days and weeks.

Yours Sincerely
Mr D Kennedy
Headteacher