



# STEETON PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Executive Head teacher: Mr. J. Cooper

Head of School: Mr. K. Wheeler

Thursday, 21 May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

## **Planned re-opening of Steeton Primary School Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June**

I am sure you will know that primary schools across Bradford have been carrying out detailed risk assessments so they can establish, based on evidence, whether it is safe to open the school to their community or not.

All schools are unique and each school leader has to make the difficult decision about when it is safe to open their school. This surely must be one of the most difficult decisions a school leader will make in their career. With this in mind, we have recommended to the governing body that we delay our planned opening of Steeton Primary School until **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June**, but only after we have reviewed this decision on Friday the 12<sup>th</sup> June. The governing body have unanimously passed this recommendation.

We felt that as a school we may be able to provide the control measures within our risk assessment which would mitigate a lot of the risks involved in reopening a school. We could not however mitigate for the levels of infection that are still within the community at this moment. We do not think that the 'R' rate has reduced to a manageable level, which was one of the government's five tests for re-opening. To open at this time would present all children, teachers and parents with at least a moderate risk caused by coming to school. This is a risk that the governing body at Steeton Primary School, in all conscience, is not prepared to take.

School will close tomorrow for keyworker children and vulnerable groups, Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2020 and will re-open on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June. We have taken the decision to do this because site staff, cleaning staff, leadership teachers and support staff have not had a break from their duties since the February half term. We feel that it is our duty to support the health and wellbeing of our staff to give them a break.

We will be making preparations to open on 15<sup>th</sup> June for all children over the coming weeks and will communicate the detailed guidance to parents on the 12<sup>th</sup> June should that be the case.

As we are now beginning to make small steps to move back to a new normal, thank you to everyone for their determination to minimise the loss of life and for being able to work together on this.

Our best wishes to all our families at Steeton Primary School.

Yours sincerely

John Cooper

Executive Head teacher.

Kevin Wheeler

Head of School.

Dave Mullen Chair of Governors

For and on behalf of the Governing body at Steeton Primary School.

