

Grewelthorpe CE Primary School

**Cross Hills, Grewelthorpe,
Ripon, North Yorkshire HG4 3BH**

Telephone: 01765 658287

Email: admin@gfschools.co.uk

Website: <https://grewelthorpeschool.co.uk>



15th June 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

The Prime Minister in his statement about the wider re-opening of schools from the 1st June communicated a plan for schools to welcome more students back to school in July. In a statement made in the House of Commons last week, the Secretary of State for Education said that the Department for Education were continuing to follow the best scientific advice and that a cautious, phased return of education and childcare settings is the most sensible course of action to take. The Government are working with the sector on planning the next steps so that schools that have the capacity can start to bring back more children in smaller class sizes. In his statement he said that there would be updates to the guidance for schools over the coming days and weeks.

What we are currently able to offer is based on the guidance issued by the Government which asks us to reduce class sizes in the targeted year groups to no more than 15 and as much as possible, to keep to the 2m social distancing rule. The size of the rooms and staff available to work in school has dictated what we can safely offer in terms of provision. With the guidance as it stands currently, there is not capacity within the school building or staff available to work to take in more children or year groups at this time. As the guidance changes, leaders of the school will continue to review what we are able to safely offer.

We hope that for the children who have returned to school, that they have found it a positive experience despite the systems and routines we have had to put in place. In these unprecedented times, it is difficult to predict what impact the relaxation measures of lockdown will have. We therefore completely understand that many of you will still be very anxious about sending your children to school and we will continue to support you by providing home learning via our website. We can however also appreciate that this must be

frustrating if you are family who would like to be able to send your child/ren to school but are currently not able to do so.

I have been so impressed by the resilience of the children and want to thank you for all the support you have given school over the past months. You have all been doing an amazing job at home with your children and as many of us are parents ourselves, we appreciate how challenging it is to provide this structure of learning at home particularly when you yourselves are having to work also.

Our aim over the coming weeks is to work on ways to develop communication between the children working at home and those in school. We will be doing a daily act of collective worship on themes which will hopefully encourage the children and staff to connect in a different way and celebrate all their achievements. Today you will see that we have started with the theme 'Friendship'. We would love for you to send in letters from the children, video messages and pictures so that we can reconnect as a school family which is having to operate in a different way at the moment.

Staff working from home will use a variety of recommended teaching platforms to help engage the children with their learning. Please do contact teachers via the class emails if you have any questions or require any support.

Kind regards,

P Acheson

Executive Headteacher

