



# Twynham Learning

Chief Executive Officer: Mr Gareth Morris BA (Hons), PGCE, NPQH, M(Ed)

Chair of Trustees: Mr Douglas Croucher

13<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Dear Parents

## COVID-19 and School Opening

I am writing to give an update following the Prime Minister's announcement on Sunday about school attendance from the 1<sup>st</sup> June.

All my colleagues want to return to educating children within school, supporting their growth and ensuring that they get the best opportunities for the future. They continue to work hard to provide several variants of education provision whilst balancing their own family commitments and staying safe. The schools feel empty without our students and we want to see them back again...when it is safe to do so.

However, we do have strong reservations about the Government's decision and we echo the call for Government to be transparent about the evidence behind their decisions. Bringing our youngest pupils back into school presents particular challenges around social distancing. We also have to consider the issue of PPE and vulnerable groups where the messaging has changed and is currently rather conflicting.

That said, we are of course reviewing how school could look in June / July. What we know is:

- It will not look the same as the provision that was closed in March
- It is likely to be part-time to allow us to keep students in smaller groups
- It will focus on core subjects/topics; aligning with the distance-learning curriculum
- It will not include subjects that may involve close contact

Of course, we will do everything we can to keep your children safe and well provided for. However, we can not offer complete reassurance – because we are not in control of the spread of COVID-19. We recognise that some families will wish to continue educating their children from home and we will not be issuing absence penalties for those who choose to do so. The distance-learning offer will continue through the Summer Term.

Others of you will be happy to send your children to school once their year group is listed and we will support you in settling your children back into school life. For children of Key Workers and for our more vulnerable students, the option to be in school will of course continue.

In order for us to make plans to support your preferences, we would be grateful if parents of Years N, R, 1, 6, 10 and 12 children would complete our short online survey (provided alongside this letter) for each child attending a Twynham Learning School.

Thank you in advance for your input. We will be in touch again shortly with more detail.

Kind regards

**Gareth Morris**  
Chief Executive Officer

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