



31<sup>st</sup> December 2020

Dear Parents / Carers

On Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> December, the announcement was made by Gavin Williamson, Secretary of State for Education, that most primary pupils will return to school next week. Our school is ready to welcome your child(ren) back on **Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January** (Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January is an INSET day). We know that it is important for children to continue their education in amongst everything else that is happening in the world around us. This is significant both academically and socially.

Please support children on their return to school in the following ways:

- Talk to children positively about their return to school – they really do pick up on the anxieties of the adults around them.
- Remind children about the need for excellent levels of hygiene. We will continue to ask your children to sanitise and wash their hands regularly throughout the school day. Please reiterate to them that it is important to avoid physical contact with others wherever possible. Our school staff will be reminding children about these elements.

Parents/carers can support us by adhering to the rules for Tier 4 areas (see the attachment). It is particularly important that you arrive at school and collect your child during your allocated, staggered timeslot (unchanged from last term), and please limit your time on site and your interactions. Always remain socially distanced from others.

Importantly, if anyone in your household has symptoms of coronavirus, do **not** send your child to school, but instead follow the NHS guidance. In this situation, please notify us immediately through [office@cjsdorset.org](mailto:office@cjsdorset.org) or telephone the school office on 01202 485579.

The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- **a high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- **a new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- **a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** – this means you have noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Please note, it is expected that further guidance relating to school reopening will be forthcoming from the government over the next few days. I will provide any updates, if required, next week.

As always, your understanding and support in this difficult time is appreciated. Stay as safe as possible and enjoy the remaining days of the holiday. We look forward to welcoming your children back at school on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January.

Yours sincerely,

Mr S Fuller  
Headteacher