



'Enabling every child to fulfil his/her potential in a nurturing Christian environment.'

12th June 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

UPDATE FROM THE IEB

I am writing to you to provide an update on both academisation and on plans for a wider opening of the school to pupils, the latter issue taking account of further information and guidance from the Local Authority (LA), which was sent late yesterday.

The LA has asked schools make every effort to offer places to all Reception, Y1 and Y6 children by or from Monday 22nd June, if their physical space for groups or "bubbles" of up to 15 pupils allows, AND if there are sufficient staff to do this. This must be supported by a detailed school based risk assessment. We are in the process of updating our risk assessment, and also establishing from parents/carers how many of our vulnerable children, and key workers' children, will be taking places. We want to ensure we are able to offer as many places as possible to eligible children, by which I mean from the year groups mentioned above, and from the vulnerable/key worker group.

The aspiration we have is that we will begin to admit more children from the week beginning Monday 22nd June, and there will be more detailed information about this shared with you later next week, and certainly by Thursday. I am sorry it is not possible to say more about this now. I fully appreciate this will be frustrating for you. Additionally, we are looking at ways to offer all pupils in Y2- Y5 some time back in school before the end of term, if we possibly can. Please note we are awaiting further government announcements next week, which we will be required to take account of, and are expected to relate to "catch up" for all pupils, and some government expectations about the curriculum offer to these year groups.

With regard to academisation, I cannot say yet when our application to join CDAT will go to the Headteacher Board, but actual conversion is unlikely until some point after October half term at the earliest. However, we are looking for that to be largely a technical issue, as our working with CDAT should mean we are well aligned with their expectations, as the IEB continues to work with CDAT to best enable a smooth transition process to academy status. I am pleased to say we will be joined by a headteacher from CDAT from next week, working with and alongside our staff for one or two days a week, and through the next school year. I will be able to share some information about the headteacher concerned early next week, and they will be in school all day next Wednesday, and, socially distanced, but out at the front of school at the beginning and end of the school day.



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As promised in our response to the academy consultation, CDAT have prepared an information pack for parents to supplement the information shared in the IEB report to consultees. It went to the printers yesterday, so hopefully will be available very shortly.

I appreciate that this period has tested the patience and confidence of some of you, and have been difficult for all. Much of this has been common to all schools, but of course our circumstances have been particularly challenging and have hampered our ability to communicate with you as fully as we would have liked. They are also slowing progression to academisation to a degree. However, from the IEB perspective we do believe that we will regain momentum very soon, most importantly in welcoming back more of our children during the course of June.

Yours sincerely,

Andy Kent

Chair of Governors, Utkinton St Paul's C of E Primary