



South Haringay School
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Wednesday 3rd June 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

We have had a number of emails and phone calls from parents and carers asking questions, and making suggestions, about a range of issues related to the gradual re-opening of our school.

I'm sure you will appreciate that our school staff have a lot to do as we navigate our way through this challenging period. It is not going to be possible for us to answer all of the personal emails being sent to us while managing the other tasks we have to contend with currently. So, I have assembled this 'Frequently Asked Questions' letter, as way to address common themes in some of the communication we have received.

Will you be opening to years 2, 3, 4 and 5 before the summer holiday?

We do not know at this stage, although we think it unlikely. Government guidance requires us to arrange our staff, resources and buildings, in ways which mean it will be difficult for us to replicate what we plan on doing for Reception, year 1 and year 6, right across the school. If guidance changes significantly before the summer holiday, it may become possible to open to some of these year groups, but only after a thorough risk assessment. We will keep you posted.

Can children in these year groups come in to say goodbye to staff and pick up any resources?

We don't have any plans for this to happen, as we are obliged to follow government guidance which requires us to manage and control who comes into the school; keeping this to a minimum and meeting a number of other criteria. Of course, we would all love to have you in and celebrate the milestones of another year, and understand your disappointment that this may not be possible. We will do our best to recognise the year which has passed, when we all return in the new school year, and ensure children and their current teachers have an opportunity to be together.

Can my child join the critical worker provision?

We are providing places for children of critical workers. The guidance around this provision has been relaxed over recent weeks. Those families who were previously keeping children at home because they were able to provide care at home, might now want to explore accessing the provision. You will still need to apply, and we will still require evidence of critical worker status. If you feel you this may apply to you please email admin@shsharingey.co.uk

I hope these answers have assisted some of you. Please feel free to send in further questions, however we will not be committing to answering all of them. Instead we will produce a similar letter of FAQs at regular intervals over the coming weeks, if there is need.

On a personal note, please understand that I did not become a Headteacher in order to have to ration and restrict access to education and our school. This situation has placed me, and my staff, in situations where we have to make decisions we find very uncomfortable as professionals, and which we realise will not please everyone. I am not complaining, as this remains a job I love, despite the current crisis. I would ask for some understanding that we are trying our best to stay true to our school's vision and values as we move through this.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ian Scotchbrook', written in a cursive style.

Ian Scotchbrook

Headteacher