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## **Dear Parents**

You will have heard this said many times. We are living in new and challenging times. Each day we receive new information and directions on how to keep ourselves and others safe. Greenwood Academy Trust has worked diligently and thoroughly to make sure that all procedures and processes that are needed in our academies are in place.

Mr Wayne Norrie (CEO) has stated 'I will not make any decision that in my professional judgement puts the safety of our children and my colleagues at risk. We will not rush and regret.'

We will be opening to children in a phased approach. This will be reviewed fortnightly and in line with social distancing directions. Phase 1 will start on June 8<sup>th</sup>.

We have asked all parents if we could open would they want a place for their child if there was one available. We had 203 replies, 103 have said 'yes'. We have 50 spaces. This means that we have had to apply Government criteria for selecting children for these spaces: Key Workers, Vulnerable Children and Year 6. These parents have been informed. If you have not had an alert informing you your child has a place, then they do not have a place. Do not send your child to school if they do not have a place. They will not be able to attend. Please remember that these are not decisions we have made these are Government directives.

Information from the Government: Department for Education (DfE) has updated <u>information</u> on what parents and carers need to know about schools, colleges and other education settings during the coronavirus outbreak. Our Government and DfE are supporting moves to open schools to more children. They are also directing schools to rigidly maintain class sizes where children have 2 m space around them in Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 classes and 2.3 m in our EYFS and Nursery. For our Academy this means 6 children in each class and 8 children in Nursery. Therefore, limited places are available. Once the Government relax social distancing measures, we will be able to open to more children.

We are not placing any pressure onto parents to send their child back to school. We will continue to set home learning activities and live lessons. Teaching staff in school will be keeping in contact with children at home.

We are keen to return to 'normal' as soon as we possibly can. We will continue to keep you informed. We understand for some it will be as frustrating for you as it is for us that we cannot welcome all children back to school.

We hope that you continue to keep safe.

Mrs I Bain

Principal