



The Bishop Konstant Catholic Academy Trust

Learning Communities, Inspired by Faith

Chair of the Trust: Mr Charles Gillott
Chief Executive Officer: Mrs Lesley Fitton
The Bishop Konstant Catholic Academy Trust,
The Zucchi Suite, Nostell Business Estate, Nostell,
Wakefield, WF4 1AB

Telephone: 01924 802285
Email: admin@bkcat.co.uk **Website:** www.bkcat.co.uk

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Dear Parents/Carers,

Re: Schools' Re-opening Plans

I hope that you and your family have had a happy and safe half-term and have been able to make the best of your time together.

The government recently announced that its five tests for the wider re-opening of primary schools nationally, from the 1st June, have been met. As I explained in my previous letter, this will mean a cautious, phased re-opening for some pupils, as well as continuing to provide school places for vulnerable pupils and the children of key workers. The Bishop Konstant Trust Board met at the end of last week and supports the decision to re-open to a wider group of pupils; the Trust Board agreed that our schools' operational plans and risk assessments make it safe to do so. School risk assessments will be made available on individual school websites and will be continually updated as further guidance is published and as the phased re-opening unfolds. Specific details about the re-opening plan for your child's school will come directly from the school. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Headteachers, school staff, governors and the Trust Central Team for the enormous amount of work and consideration that has taken place in order to safely plan for our schools to re-open.

Next week, from Tuesday 9th June all 10 primary schools will begin with a phased return of Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 pupils. This will enable younger children who struggle to learn autonomously to receive much needed instruction from their teachers and enjoy the benefits of social interaction with their friends, and for Year 6 to begin the process of transition to high school. From Monday 15th June both secondary schools will work towards providing some face-to-face support for small groups of Year 10 and Year 12 pupils in accordance with government guidance. Online teaching will continue for all pupils who are not returning at this point.

Departments in the secondary schools have completed their Centre Grade Assessments for pupils who were facing public examinations this summer, and these are now being sent to the awarding bodies. This represents a considerable amount of work on the part of the staff and I appreciate the detailed and careful approach they have taken. The complexity of online learning has made it difficult for schools to manage their usual annual report writing process this year, and although parents will still receive a detailed report about the academic progress of your child at the end of June/early July, please be aware that this may not follow the usual format.

It has been over ten weeks since we were all last together in school and although it seems that aspects of our lives are slowly returning to normal, there is still a long way to go. I would therefore like to remind all parents, carers and pupils that we only expect you to do what you can in terms of work at home and that wellbeing and relationships come first. Dealing with uncertainty brings its very own kind of stress and anxiety and I hope that you are finding ways to deal with this. Finally, I would like to thank you all for your continued support, kindness and patience throughout the past weeks. For those of you who are working, particularly in the NHS or as Key Workers, our thanks and admiration for all that you are doing.

Yours sincerely,

Lesley Fitton CEO