



Thomas Bullock Church of England Primary Academy

Engage, Embrace, Care, Achieve

Headteacher: Mrs Shannon O'Sullivan

 Diocese of Norwich
Education and
Academies Trust

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To our parents, carers and friends,

Firstly, thank you so much for all the ways in which you have supported us and your children during this challenging time. We are writing to let you know, as much as we can about our current plans to enable the wider opening of our school. We are working hard in school to decide on the best course of action for our community, based on the guidance we are receiving and in a very uncertain and rapidly-changing situation.

We are in the process of organising our school to prepare for a socially distanced environment. So that you can make a truly informed decision, about what is best for your family, next week there will be a video tour of the school. This will take you through some of the classrooms and show you what our school will look like with just a few of our new routines in place. When this is complete, we will send a survey to gather your thoughts and opinions at this time. Following this, you will receive information about the sessions we will have available for your child.

Currently, our offer to essential key workers remains the same, please inform us as soon as possible, if you are an essential key-worker and now need a place for your child. The government has prioritised the children of key-workers, children in Reception, Years 1 and 6, with the youngest children starting first. Children in Years 2-5 will remain at home and learning will continue online.

Our school community misses our children very much, and we know that many children will be keen to get back to school, perhaps remembering how this was previously. However, the reality of how we will have to work now will be very different. Children in school are likely not to be taught by their class teacher; they will have to remain at their desks when in class and they will not be able to mix with others outside of their small teaching pods. We will not be able to open for all children, every day and when your children are here, our school timings will include shorter sessions, staggered starts and earlier departures. We will share further information about what this will look like in our video and following our survey next week.

We know that many of you will have worries and concerns about sending your children back to school and we will fully respect any decisions that you make. To alleviate worries, attendance is not compulsory and you will not receive a fine for choosing not to attend.

We value your ongoing support. Sending blessings at this time. Stay safe and healthy.

Warmest Regards

Shannon O'Sullivan, Angela Phelps and Jay Lindner
Senior Leadership Team

