



## **FAB Notes: Issue 7**

Information from

Mrs Boucher

W/B Monday 6 July 2020

### **INTRODUCTION**

As well as keeping in touch via the Friday bulletin, from time-to-time I am penning some FAB notes (- this title refers to my initials, you realise...) so that I have another opportunity to communicate regularly with you all.

### **KEEPING IN TOUCH (KiT)**

Thank you to all those who have kept in touch and responded to the numerous questions to gather ideas on the 'what next?' questions! The majority of parents have responded by agreeing, in a sense, to whatever we need to do for the good of the school. Sprinkled into these replies were some useful pieces of feedback from a number (half a dozen?) who probed for a greater understanding of possible courses of action and shared concerns about how their family would be affected if we, for example, changed end of term arrangements.

I am glad to say that we have formulated a non-disruptive plan! Y2, Y3 and Y4 pupils have the chance to see their current teacher in a two-hour drop-in at school over the coming week or so. We have been able to do this without disrupting the attendance of other bubbles but by rejigging how staff are deployed that week.

We will invite Y5 and Y6 pupils into school in the last week for a 2-day block of time – again, without disrupting the existing bubbles, adapting the staffing and activities to accommodate this (Y5 and Y6 letters to follow).

We are now unable to make any further changes to our existing arrangements: for those in the eligible groups who have not attended thus far, we are unable to adjust any further, unfortunately. I estimate that this affects around half a dozen pupils – so it is frustrating not to be able to pull in *just one more plan* to consider including these children as well. If we think of something, we will make direct contact.

### **PLANS FOR SEPTEMBER: Phase 4**

We put a holding statement in the latest Friday bulletin, knowing that parents would be aware of the updated guidance coming out but also that we would not have had time to digest it all by the end of last week. I have meetings with the Trust on Tuesday this week, so will be able to share September plans in the near future.

I am quite confident that we will be able to put plans into place to ensure that all pupils have the opportunity

to come back, full time – that has been our intention all along. The planning will be around how to keep all the best aspects of what we have learned so far in relation to: bubble working; how we can organise staggered lunch/ break/ start/ end times going forward; what needs to happen in terms of minimising contact between class groups and adults in school etc.

I hope to give lots of information to parents soon: the smoothest plans will come from sharing ideas with stakeholders.

A separate letter about Kids Club/ Holiday Club is coming out this week.

In terms of what school actually look and feel like in the new school year, I wanted to share some elements of our planning. I have made a video for parents for ease of communication: I hope you find it useful. I will add more detail over time – this is just a taster!

<https://www.loom.com/share/c5e96d9db68e4d7bb783e48f5e1fb4f9>

### **REPORTS 2020**

You may be wondering if you will receive an annual report about your child this year. Well, you will! It is still a legal requirement to provide such a report – and we are very happy to do so. Understandably, these may differ from what we might have been able to share if the year had unfolded as we would have wished.

Estimated grades have been calculated for exam/ SATs year groups on transition to high school/ sixth form/ university this year. In a similar vein, we have used our knowledge of and predictions for pupils to arrive at sensible judgements around whether children are working towards/ meeting/ exceeding their year group expectations at the end of the year. It would be wrong to automatically say that because no one has been here 100% of the time since March that pupils can't be 'meeting': we can use our experience of previous work, and previous cohorts, to make judgements about current outcomes for pupils, in line with their peers who have been in the same boat.

### **GOOD WISHES**

We continue to keep everyone in our thoughts and prayers.

*Fionuala Boucher*