



## NEWBOTTLE & CHARLTON CEVA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Every person matters, every moment counts "I can do all this through him who gives me strength"

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Interim Headteacher: Mr Peter Smith

Chair Of Governors: Lady Hayter

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

The government yesterday gave schools more guidance of welcoming more children back into school before the end of term. Ideally we would love to welcome everyone back in, but we are unable to do this if we need to keep to the 15 limit of bubbles of children with a minimum of two staff members. However, we do now have flexibility to allow a few more children in before the end of term. The plans we created - which were asked of us by the government before half term- gives capacity for all 20-reception, 15-Year 1 and 15-Year 6 children to attend school from 1<sup>st</sup> June. Three bubbles have been created in Oak, Ash and Birch for these children following Dfe protective measure guidance. To accommodate all 20 reception children, we had created a smaller bubble in the library, which we have not yet needed to use.

At present we have not yet reached capacity of children in the Year 1 and 6 bubbles and have space and staff for a smaller bubble in the library. Therefore following the new guidance, we are asking if parents of children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 please let us know by Thursday at 4pm using the attached poll, if you will be sending your child back to school before the end of term. If you indicate that you do not require the space or we don't hear from after that time, we will offer this capacity to another pupil and you won't subsequently be able to take up the place this term. Recent guidance has stated, *'There is no expectation on primary schools to welcome back additional children where they do not have capacity to do so, and they should only do so where they can accommodate more children while still following the approaches set out in this guidance and their own risk assessment. Where schools have capacity, they may choose to welcome back additional pupils. It is up to schools to decide which pupils to prioritise, based on their knowledge of their children and communities.'* We feel we do have some limited capacity and have liaised with the Northampton Educational Psychology service and have made the decision to prioritise the children with additional needs. They will be first to be offered any remaining places at school if not taken by reception, Year 1 and Year 6. We will be in contact with those parents as soon as we know there is space available. We can't guarantee that the bubble they go into will house their friends and year groups but we will communicate this with you before you confirm your place.

We are also ensuring we have appropriate supervision in school for vulnerable and children of critical workers. At present this is working in Elm class with Miss Hirst and we have a range of age groups in this bubble. There could be potential of some of these children moving back to their class bubbles but this would need to be decided on a case by case basis using the Dfe guidance. We would appreciate if you are a key worker and haven't yet sent your child in that you let us know if you might, so we can make firm plans for each bubble before the end of term.

As you can see this a complex situation and I would love to be able to see all the children back in some capacity before September. This might include a face-to-face session with some class mates before we break up for summer, I cannot promise this, but I will continue to evaluate risk assessments and use appropriate guidance to communicate with you any decision we make as a school with support from the governing body.

If you have any queries or questions, don't hesitate to contact the school.

Thank you for your continued support during this difficult time.

Kind Regards

Mr Peter Smith (Interim Headteacher)