

Update from Ironstone Academy Trust: July 2020



Dear Parents and Carers

Planning for September 2020

Following the Government's announcement earlier this month, regarding September returns for all pupils, we are making plans to facilitate all groups again to start next academic year in all of the schools within Ironstone Academy Trust. These plans will be created by the Head teacher of each school, in consultation with their staff. We await further guidance from the Government on the methodology we should employ in this planning. When our plans are complete, we will share them once again with each school's respective community via their website. This update will encompass information such as class ratios, social distancing and school meals.

While we can see the positive intent in the Government's continuing easing of lockdown measures, at the moment each of our schools will ensure we continue to adhere to sensible distancing and strict hand hygiene measures to maintain the reduction in the infection rate.

Current Position of School Opening Continues

At each of the Trust schools we do not have the capacity to extend our current provision beyond that has already been shared with you. Our main priority continues to be to provide childcare for the children of key workers as we have done every day since lockdown.

Learning at Home and at School

The response from many of our families in respect to supporting learning at home has been inspiring. Staff have continued to contact the families of children who have been less well engaged and offered additional support to them. We have made arrangements to augment our offer to families with some interactive learning opportunities, which allow children in school and at home to share the same experience. This is supported by paper-based resources that are shared alongside the digital resources available on the school website and MarvellousMe. I am pleased that our staff have managed to maintain the mix of blended learning, whilst the numbers of pupils attending our schools have steadily increased.

Summer Holiday; arrangements for opening

Each of our schools will shut for pupils during the summer holiday period; the dates of the closure will be those previously circulated. The regular phone calls, video lessons and other forms of contact made by school will stop. The Government has made it clear that we are not obliged to continue offering childcare during the 6-week summer holiday period.

At Normanby Primary School a Summer Holiday Club will be offered, run by an external provider. The cost of attendance will have to be met by parents and carers. The provision of places will be limited and offered on a first come first served basis. Information regarding this will be circulated in due course.

Yours Sincerely

Carl Faulkner, CEO Ironstone Academy Trust