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Headteacher: Mr Peter Box BA (Hons)

3rd June 2020

Dear parents and carers,

As promised, I am sending you an update about how close we are to meeting the four criteria for widening our opening.

The four key conditions are listed below.

Opening is conditional on the following conditions being met:

- **Gavin Williamson (Secretary of State for Education) has stated that Test, Track and Trace will be in place. It will need to be.**
- **The five key tests stated by the government will need to be met in Herefordshire (not nationally).**
- **The government releases the data that proves that this is a safe strategy. There has been no assurance that children returning from school will not put members of their family at risk.**
- **The R number remains below 1. We are yet to see the effect of the easing of the lockdown.**

Condition one has not been fully met. The government has not released testing figures for the last ten days. It has been stated that rapid turn-around of test results is crucial but there is no evidence in order to determine if this is happening. The capacity to track and trace is mentioned but there are no figures to confirm this. We cannot find evidence of track and trace in Herefordshire.

Condition two has not been met. The number of cases with symptoms has reduced in Herefordshire but remains at a level that is too high for re-opening of our schools.

Condition three has not been met. We are still awaiting assurance of this.

Condition four has been met.

We want to get our pupils back in to school as soon as possible and **we are currently aiming for Monday 15th June for the wider opening to eligible pupils.** We do, however, need some transparency about what is actually happening to achieve test, track and trace.

I would like to say a huge thank you for the time and effort you have dedicated to home schooling and hopefully offer you some reassurance.



Please don't worry about whether you are doing a good enough job with home schooling. The best way to minimise the future impact of the lock down is to read a lot and practice number facts. If you could encourage your child to read every day and learn their number facts, they will be well equipped to pick up where they left off.

Even in normal times, reading is the most important activity that we do in school. Children who read develop a bigger vocabulary which makes them better writers.

The single most important skill in maths is knowing your number facts. For younger children this means their number bonds to 10 and 20, and for Year 2 upwards their multiplication tables.

We are designing programmes of work, for when the children return, to make up for the ground they have lost.

In the near future you will be receiving your child's report and you will be given the opportunity to talk to their teacher, about the report.

We will regularly review the conditions listed above and will reopen as soon as it is safe to do so.

In the meantime, if there is any way that we can help you, please do not hesitate to contact us via admin@kc.hmfa.org.uk or jgittins@kc.hmfa.org.uk

Peter Box
Headteacher



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