

7th June 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

COVID-19 – Re-opening our schools: St George’s and Mayfield to more pupils

I am writing to confirm that our plans to open schools to more pupils, starting with some Year 6 pupils in Mayfield and St George’s tomorrow, Monday, 8th June 2020, will go ahead. This is in addition to continuing to be open for the children of key workers and our vulnerable pupils who are already attending. You have received details from your Headteacher about how children will be phased in, and the timings of the day, so that we can manage the numbers safely for everyone and the arrangements for drop off and collection.

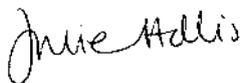
We are confident that our risk assessments are thorough, and the protective measures are in place. We look forward to welcoming our pupils back.

We have, of course, reviewed the information published on Friday about a rise in the R rate for the North West; however, we are assured by the Director of Public Health, the Director of Children’s Services and the Regional Schools’ Commissioner for Greater Manchester and West Yorkshire that **regional** R rates have wide uncertainty ranges and are not a useful measure of regional infection rates on their own. The **local** data indicates that Oldham’s rate of infection has reduced significantly from a peak in April, in line with Greater Manchester as a whole.

Our schools are managing the return of more children very carefully, focusing on the main controls of distancing and hygiene, to ensure that the virus is not transmitted in school and therefore, children, staff and the wider community are protected.

I think we probably have to accept that, as the lockdown is lifted, but before a vaccine becomes available, there will be fluctuations, and we may sometimes need to adjust our planning depending on public health advice. Communication is key and we will let you know what we are doing and why we are doing it. The safety and welfare of our children, staff and the community will always be at the heart of our decisions.

Yours sincerely



JULIE HOLLIS
Chief Executive Officer
The Cranmer Education Trust