

**Buxted Church of England Primary School**

Hurstwood Road

Buxted

East Sussex

TN22 4BB



Inspire and Aspire

**Interim Headteacher:** Mr G Alexander

**Deputy Headteacher:** Mrs K Hart

**Telephone:** 01825 733185

[www.buxtedce.e-sussex.sch.uk](http://www.buxtedce.e-sussex.sch.uk)

25<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am sure you have heard the fantastic news that the Government has asked all schools to open fully from the 8<sup>th</sup> of March. I am just writing to acknowledge this and let you know I am currently working with staff on making that happen.

We are revisiting the risk assessment but the vast majority of systems that you were used to in the Autumn will still be the same. We may make a few small changes based on what staff learnt during the Autumn, but obviously it is tricky for me to know where things can be improved at this stage. Further details about any changes will be sent next week once agreed, in addition to the Wrap around care changes that accompany this letter. We will keep the risk assessment under review throughout the period to ensure we are all as safe as possible.

I appreciate what a difficult time this has been for all and we are all hoping for the vaccination program and mass testing to finally lead us to a summer of fewer restrictions. For clarity, whilst our staff are now tested twice a week for Covid to reduce the risk of spread, there are currently no plans to extend the testing to children in Primary schools.

Whilst many of you are almost certainly going to drive off on Monday the 8<sup>th</sup> with an enormous grin and a sense of relief, there will be some of you that are understandably anxious about your children returning to school. Unfortunately, the Government has not given me the power to say that school is optional, but what I can say is that we will do everything that is practical to reduce the chances of the virus spreading in school. Whilst we cannot guarantee that we will not have cases and further disruption, our procedures will reduce risk to pupils and staff. We are all reassured that the one positive thing to be said for Covid is that children of a Primary age group are statistically very unlikely to be too poorly should they catch it.

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I personally cannot wait to meet all the children from Buxted; it has been a strange two months running a school with only vulnerable and Key worker children in the building. There are many improvements I want to make whilst I am here and we will begin in earnest once the children have all settled. I am excited to begin working with teachers and other staff to develop our practice here and I hope you will see some of the impact as we move into the summer.

I will be in touch next week with further details about re-opening.

Kind regards,

Mr Alexander