

14 July 2020



City of  
**Stoke-on-Trent**

To: Parents and Carers of All Pupils

**Children and Families**  
Civic Centre  
Glebe Street  
Stoke-on-Trent  
ST4 1HH

Dear Parent/Carer

### **Pupils Returning to School in September 2020**

As we approach the end of this most unusual Summer Term, we would like to set out the arrangements which will apply in schools across the city from September 2020. The period of lockdown during the pandemic has required an unprecedented response in terms of changes to normal school provision. We have been working with school leaders across the city, as well as following the latest guidance from government, to provide the assurances which will be required to bring all pupils back into full-time education from the start of next term.

The expectation is that reopening in September should be as close as possible to the 'normality' of before lockdown, although it is inevitable that there will be aspects of school daily life which will still continue to reflect the extraordinary circumstances generated by the pandemic. Schools are also prepared to support the continued effort to suppress the virus and will be alert to the prospect of a return to more restrictions should they be re-imposed if the public health situation requires this.

The safety and wellbeing of children and staff have driven our approach at all times. We are satisfied that the new term offers the opportunity for all year groups to re-engage fully with education within the school setting. We therefore ask that you follow the local instructions from your child's school and join them in efforts to allow pupils to catch-up with learning which has been so disturbed for many in recent months.

We would like to take this opportunity to say a big thank you to you as parents/carers for your understanding during this difficult time, as well as to all the schools for their ongoing work to ensure all children can continue with their education in a safe and secure way.

Yours faithfully

Cllr Abi Brown  
**Council Leader**

Sarah Parker  
**Director of Children's Services**

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#### **Get in touch**

Telephone: 01782 234 234    [stoke.gov.uk](http://stoke.gov.uk)

