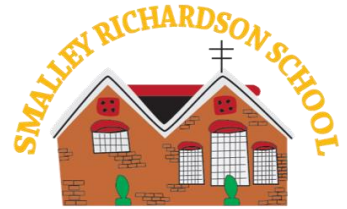




Trust Leader – Mr M Crawford  
National Leader of Education



Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

### Opening Up of Schools

We are writing this short letter to urge caution around what you tell your children, following last night's announcement by the Prime Minister. It may surprise you to know that we don't hear anything of government policy before you do. Yesterday's announcement, that schools **may** open for Reception, Y1 and Y6 pupils on 1<sup>st</sup> June (or **may** not if conditions are not met) is the first we have heard too. We currently await detailed guidance from the Department for Education, which of course must put the safety of staff and pupils first. Please do NOT make promises to your children yet.

You may also have heard in the news about Teaching Unions not wanting to open schools. *Nothing is further from the truth.* The Embark Federation teams have never worked harder, producing and maintaining a home learning programme, whilst also keeping our schools open for children of key workers. The staff can't wait for a time when we can welcome all children back into our schools safely and I know they have been keeping in touch in various ways over recent weeks, which has been lovely to see.

Our staff have also been working on a programme of resources for children for when they return to school that will be shared nationwide. This programme is focused on the social and emotional needs of children and staff and their wellbeing.

We hope you and your family are staying safe. Please continue to enjoy time as a family and do not put pressure on your children with their home learning. Do as much as you are able to and take plenty of time to enjoy fresh air, exercise and play too.

Take care and we look forward to welcoming you back at school as soon as it is safe to do so.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'M. Crawford'.

Matthew Crawford  
Trust Leader

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Mrs K Mason'.

Mrs K Mason  
Headteacher