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achieving for children

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Dear Parents and Carers

We are writing to keep you appraised of the recent government announcement that enables all children to return to school after the summer holidays.

The Royal Borough and local schools look forward to welcoming all your children back to school in September. Schools across the borough are working hard to update their risk assessments in order to ensure that all children will be able to start back in September safely.

The Department for Education guidance recognises that 'one size does not fit all', as has been the case with re-opening for some year groups in June. Schools will approach the reopening in different ways but please be assured that all of our schools will be opening and offering full time education to the children in our borough. This may involve staggered start and finish times and different starting dates as schools work out the best way to support the transition back into school and into different classes and year groups. Schools will communicate this specific information to you through their established channels.

The government announcement for schools to return in September has also resulted in school attendance to become mandatory once again with full curriculum and exams expected to take place in summer 20201. We appreciate that this can cause concern for some families however the risk assessed approach being taken by schools and the engagement with Public Health services minimises the risks and we urge you to return your children to school in September where they will be able to learn, socialise with friends, and regain some of their typical confidence. The best way to minimise the risks is to follow the advice and systems set out by your school on your return.

We thank you all for your continued cooperation during these unprecedented times. As you will recognised, the virus is still in circulation and plans may need to change without notice. Schools will communicate any changes with you directly and we would encourage you to visit your school website and sign up to their social media groups, so you receive timely updates and news.

Yours sincerely

Cllr Stuart Carroll
Lead Member for Children's Services
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Kevin McDaniel
Director of Children's Services