



26th February 2021

Dear Parents & Carers

Following the government's announcement on Monday night, and having had an opportunity to read the 'road map' document, I would like to share our plans for the remainder of this term. As usual at Rachel Madocks, our strategy is designed with the safety and wellbeing of our pupils and staff at the forefront of our minds.

All children, **apart from those who have received a shielding letter**, will be back in school from the 8<sup>th</sup> March but this will be for **4 days** for each class during the first two weeks commencing **8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> March** as follows:

Parrots, Penguins, Puffins, Roadrunners, Serins, Wrens, Post-16 (Hawks & Kestrels)	Weeks beginning 8 <sup>th</sup> & 15 <sup>th</sup> March 4 days in school <b>Monday - Thursday</b>
Peacocks, Robins, Herons, Shelducks, Skylarks, Toucans	Weeks beginning 8 <sup>th</sup> & 15 <sup>th</sup> March 4 days in school <b>Tuesday - Friday</b>

For the remainder of this term, from **22<sup>nd</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup> March**, we will return to **full time attendance** for all classes.

This strategy is due to a number of reasons:

- Firstly, we will still have staff on risk assessments, including those who are classed as clinically vulnerable, and this has an impact on staffing levels. On the days some classes are not in, we can utilise staff to support other areas of the school safely.

- Secondly, we need to test all staff regularly for the first two weeks as the school population increases and we need time to get home testing kits to families. Using these home testing kits for your child is voluntary and school will not be carrying out testing for pupils on site. Pupils not undergoing testing should still attend school in line with our phased return arrangements.

**Please contact the School Office or your child's class teacher if you would like a home testing kit for your child.**

- Finally, this phased return to full time school will also support children who have not had the opportunity to access school, or who have been on a reduced timetable, as they return to full time education.

If you have any concerns regarding your child's return to full-time school, please do not hesitate to contact me. I would like to assure you that this phased return follows the Local Authority advice for Special Schools and our governing body are aware of our plans.

We will continue with all our sanitising and safety measures in line with our risk assessments. As always, **please do not send your child to school if they are unwell or have a temperature.**

Thank you, once again, to you all for your continued support. We are really looking forward to seeing our Rachel Madocks community reunited as classes return to full capacity during the remainder of this term.

Regards,



Niki Wilson  
Headteacher