



27th May 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: Postponing partial primary phase opening from June 1st to June 15th 2020

I hope you and loved ones remain safe and well.

I write with an update of our current position. I am very grateful to our staff who have worked hard to put into place measures across our schools to minimise the risk of spread of COVID-19. The measures as detailed in our previous letter to you have been advised by the government.

In the interim, we have continued to review the national position daily through available guidance and advice. You will all realise, it is unlikely that there will be a perfect safe opening date until the availability of an efficacious vaccine/treatment or that the risk of contracting the virus is very low. Either scenarios are predicted to be many months away at the earliest.

In addition, an imminent national 'track and trace' programme, will require a significant proportion of the population to participate to be effective. It is likely that it will take a little time, even after the launch for the program to reach a reasonable level of participation.

In consideration of a higher BAME (Black, Asian, Minority Ethnic) school population we aim to tread forward gently. Therefore, I have taken the decision to postpone the primary schools reopening until June 15th 2020 for the following year groups; Reception, Year 1 and Year 6. This new opening date will be in line with a partial opening for Year 10 and Year 12 pupils in our secondary school.

The school will continue to remain open for the children of keyworkers/vulnerable children, who have been regularly attending school since the school closures.

These further two weeks should hopefully allow a reduction in relative infection risk to the general population as well as the 'track and trace' programme to embed.

Please do note the decision to open on June 15th 2020 will be continually reviewed, and is subject to change should further government guidance suggest this and of course will remain in contact should the position change.

If you have any general comments you wish to share, please email Enquiries@nishkamschools.org. Unfortunately, please kindly understand, I will not be able reply to any individual comments.

I do apologise for the difficulty in planning this may cause you, however I feel that this is in the best interest for all concerned. We will be in touch with you in due course to share further developments.

Yours sincerely
Dr Brinder Singh Mahon
Chief Executive Officer



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