



# The Federation of St Bede's & St Bernadette Catholic Schools

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Dear Parents and Carers

The last seven weeks have been a real challenge for us all and you have all done an amazing job working with your children at home and keeping in touch with us all. Thank you for all your messages of thanks and hope which we have received and are very grateful for.

The long awaited Prime Minister's address on Sunday left us with more questions than answers! We are now waiting for further guidance from the government and Lambeth Education as to how the proposal to start reopening schools for certain year groups in June is going to work. The Prime Minister has said that we have to be Covid secure before we can even think of reopening and we are not yet sure what this entails.

We are all very keen to see our children back in school learning, but this is going to have to happen in very small steps, with small groups of children beginning to return. We have started planning and thinking about how we are going to introduce social distance measures for our very youngest children in Reception and Year 1 and for our year 6 children, and how we can continue to support our children academically and as regards their well being, whether they are at school or at home, until we hopefully reopen in September.

There's a lot to think about and plan for with very little guidance at this stage! However, nothing is set in stone at the present time and any decisions to be taken are dependent on key factors being discussed with the relevant Education agencies and teaching unions. I would like to assure all our families that any decisions we take as a federation will be in the best interests of our children, ensuring that it is safe for them to return.

Guidance will be issued to schools over the next few weeks and I will keep you informed as to our plans for the eventual partial reopening of schools.

As you know, May is the month of Mary and we particularly pray for Her intercession at this difficult time and join all our Catholic community around the world in prayer every Monday morning, by saying the Rosary. Please go onto the Vatican link for further information of how you can do this as a family:

[http://www.vatican.va/special/rosary/index\\_rosary.htm](http://www.vatican.va/special/rosary/index_rosary.htm)

Warmest regards

Ewa Ostrynska

Federation Headteacher

