



Soaring Skies Federation



## Reception Class Transition

13.07.2020

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s),

### Reception Transition update: Letter 2

We are conscious that some of our new Reception class children will not have visited Thomas Fairchild Community School before and if they have, it was a while ago! Entering a completely unfamiliar environment on their first day of school is far from ideal so we have adapted our usual transition arrangements to give the opportunity for a visit before your child's first day.

We are also mindful that many of our new Reception class children may not have attended their usual nursery setting or play groups for quite some time. For this reason, we are keen to enable all children to start school as soon as possible.

### Staggered Start

Not fully knowing what the situation will be in September, we have decided to revise our approach for this year. Usually, we would welcome **all** of the children in on the first day of the term. This year every child will be invited to either a morning or afternoon Stay and Play session during the week beginning 7<sup>th</sup> September 2020. There will be a maximum of 8 children attending each session. The Reception class teacher will lead the session with other staff supporting the children to settle in. Although parents/carers will still not be able to come into the school building in September, we hope to be able to provide some form of socially distanced parent/carer meet up in the playground whilst the children are enjoying their visit to school.

In the week beginning 14<sup>th</sup> September 2020, 6 children will be starting each day. By the end of this week, all children will attend full-time.

By the end of the July, we will send you the date of your child's Stay and Play session and start date for school.

### Will schools be back to 'normal' in September?

Currently, the situation is that schools will, in many ways, be back to some degree of normality. Senior Leaders will be monitoring the Government guidance very closely over the Summer and inform parents/carers of any major changes. Once we have a whole school plan finalised we will share it with all parents/carers. We are very excited to meet our new children and really look forward to welcoming our school community back in September.

Schools are still expected to maintain 'pods' of children to reduce the risk of more widespread infection. Our current plan is to keep the Reception class in one pod so they can learn effectively in our open plan environment where they have lots of opportunities for high-quality social interaction.

In the meantime, should you have any queries, do not hesitate in contacting the School Office on 0207 253 9469.