



# Spire Federation

Executive Headteacher: Mrs Emma Negus - Hill

Our Core Values are Respect, Honesty, Hope, Wisdom and Collaboration

Email: [Admin@SpireFederation.co.uk](mailto:Admin@SpireFederation.co.uk) Website: [SpireFederation.co.uk](http://SpireFederation.co.uk)

Twitter: @DigbyPrimary @DunstonPrimary @NoctonPrimary

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2020

Dear parents/carers,

## COVID RECOVERY UPDATE Re: The Proposed Phased Opening of Spire Federation schools

As you are aware, we made the decision to delay the opening of the Spire Federation schools for Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 until the 15<sup>th</sup> June at the earliest. This was based on a number of factors, which included the independent SAGE report where it outlined that they believed by delaying the opening of schools by 2 weeks, it would halve the risk of children getting the disease. We also considered the difference in the guidance for schools and that for the general public and were unsure about how we could operate safely across sites which have for the most part been closed.

We have however, for the last 2 weeks, opened all 3 sites for the children of keyworkers and vulnerable children. This has allowed us to see how each site can operate and to see how the measures we have put in place can mitigate the potential risks for both pupils and staff. Staff have worked hard to ensure that the pupils who have been attending school every day are safe. It has also been a joy to see so many smiling and happy faces in school again, we have missed everyone!

**Which is why, I, along with the support of the Governing Body, have decided to extend the opening of all 3 schools in the federation for RECEPTION, YEAR 1 and YEAR 6 pupils from Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2020.**

Our provision for key workers remains unchanged.

It is important to still note, that attendance is down to parental choice, you do not have to send your children back to school if you feel it is too soon. I know that many parents are still unsure about this. Please rest assured that there will be no fines issued, attendance is not compulsory.

Following on from the Government announcement on Tuesday, we will not be extending this offer to other year groups until September at the earliest. We are not yet clear about what September will look like, we await further guidance from the Government.

On Monday, we will increase the number of 'bubbles' that we have on each site, the staff from each school will contact all Keyworker/Reception/Year 1 and Year 6 parents who have said that they wish for their children to return to school. You will be informed about the 'bubble' you child is in, the adult they will be with, which entrance to use, and staggered start/finish times where appropriate. Children will be expected to attend school on a full-time basis, no rotas will be permitted, so we can be clear about capacity and group sizes.

Digby Church of England School,  
Church Street, Digby, Lincoln. LN4 3LZ  
Ph: 01526 320630  
Registered charity: 1045696

Dunston St Peter's Church of England School,  
Back Lane, Dunston, Lincoln. LN4 2EH  
Ph: 01526 320027  
Registered charity: 1045951

Nocton Community School,  
School Lane, Nocton, Lincoln. LN4 2BJ  
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Currently, we do have the capacity for the pupils who are intending on returning, however, please be mindful that this may change if more parents want their children to return. Keyworker/vulnerable pupils take priority and other year groups are considered in the following order:

Reception

Year 1

Year 6

We are still unable at this point to offer wrap around care, this will be reviewed periodically in line with government guidelines.

Parents and carers should follow the same COVID Recovery expectations as issued before the half term holiday. These are outlined in our Behaviour Policy Addendum, which can be found on our website by following this link:

[http://www.spirefederation.co.uk/media/BEHAVIOUR%20POLICY%20ADDENDUM%201%20FOR%20COVID%20RECOVERY%20\(2\).pdf](http://www.spirefederation.co.uk/media/BEHAVIOUR%20POLICY%20ADDENDUM%201%20FOR%20COVID%20RECOVERY%20(2).pdf)

As before, can I request that children come in clean clothes **EVERY DAY**. That all parents apply sun cream themselves to children before they enter the school site as the staff are NOT permitted to apply this when pupils are in school.

Once again, can I express my thanks to each and every one of you, who have remained patient and understanding during this challenging time. Everything we have done is to keep the children and staff at the federation safe. That will always be our priority.

Kind regards,

Mrs Emma Negus-Hill  
Executive Headteacher

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