

The Yare Education Trust

Response to Government request for Schools to consider some form of reopening.

Dear Parents,

Most importantly, I hope you and your families are keeping safe and well. We are aware that some of our families are suffering loss and real difficulties at this time. You are all in our thoughts and our support will be offered to our young people at this sad and challenging period of time.

Throughout this lockdown, all of our Headteachers have been working closely with each other and also with the Director of Schools and myself in order to find collective answers to the challenging questions we are all facing. This close work and support continues as we move into the next phase in the Governments Road Map.

The Government set out on Monday 11 May its hopes for reopening. Its latest advice states:

Children of critical workers, and vulnerable children who are already eligible, will continue to be offered a place, regardless of the year group they are in.

The definition of critical workers remains unchanged.

Any setting that cannot achieve these increases at any point because:

- *there are not enough classrooms or spaces available in the setting*
- *they do not have enough available teachers or staff to supervise the groups*

have flexibility but must first focus on continuing to provide places for priority groups (vulnerable children and the children of critical workers). 14 May 2020

We want children to return to education and we are working to meet this guidance. We must remember the safety of all children and our staff is paramount in any decision made.

We are seeking the views of parents in each school and will respond to the answers that you give. You need to understand that the offer you see from our schools and from others outside our close Trust family may be different. We are all responding to different local needs for those specific children.

Please be assured, the Trust is working with your Headteacher to achieve the best way forward for your community at this very challenging time.