



26 02 21

Dear Parents/ Carers

Re Full opening from 8th March

Survey Link:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=DQSIkWdsW0yxEjajBLZtrQAAAAAAAAAAAO_RdCbIRUNK8wR0ICNTdXNVgwMERFMkNGVUozSDFMMi4u

The decision came that we had all been hoping for, the decision to open our school to all comers once more; and then the sun came out. Hope of a return to a more palatable norm is palpable out there. Personally this is sometimes the moment when I become impatient. It's that last 50 metres of a running race with the end in sight that can weaken my resolve- I'm clearly not one of life's finishers. Thank goodness for Miss Tonner! As we head towards what has to be, what must be please, the end of this extended period of school closures, can the rest of you please stay patient. In all ways we will have to continue the same levels of high alert and risk control (with all their attendant inconveniences) as we had in the Autumn term. Caution will have to remain the watchword.

I would like to take this opportunity to say really well done to you all for you in an unpatronising, slightly 'in awe' tone of voice. I experienced the 'young people at home while trying to work/ get on with life' thing only indirectly but even that was enough to seriously weaken my spirit. I know that coming into work has been a blessing for me, complicated but a blessing, and I really feel for all those of you who have had to bear the full weight of lockdown. With this in mind, I want to make as few assumptions as possible about where people are at- hence the survey above. While there is clearly a general feeling of boredom now at our communal lot, people's individual experiences will have been various as will the emotional fallout from these experiences. We need to do our best, as a school, to provide a tailored and sensitive response.

Minchinhampton Church of England Primary Academy
School Road, Minchinhampton, Stroud, Gloucestershire GL6 9BP
Head Teacher: Mr Nick Moss
t: 01453 883273 f: 01453 884829
e: admin@minchschoo.net
www.minchacademy.net





I will keep the rest of this simple in anticipation of the busier risk assessment and guidance that will make its way to you next week. A few things then for you to know at this stage:

1. Please, if you have time and feel inclined, fill out the survey above. We are looking to gauge people's hopes and anxieties and respond as best we can.
2. Rest assured by the middle of next week, we will have updated all risk assessments and guidance for a full opening. Note now however that those parts of the risk assessment most relevant to parents should be similar to the arrangements we had in the Autumn term.
3. Our aim for the final 4 weeks of term will be to get back to a normal, steady routine. We will not be testing children - any initial assessment of gaps will be done 'naturally' as part of the teaching and learning process. We will get outside whenever we can and provide the children with more opportunities than normal to socialise and work together. We will implement a normal timetable but go at the thing in a very flexible and responsive frame of mind, ready to change our planning at the drop of a hat. We will expect to have to work into the mix a generous diet of social and emotional education.

That is all for the moment. As I said, next week we will have firmed up our arrangements and I will communicate with you about these no later than mid-week. Enjoy the sunshine this weekend and finally, although I have said it now many times, I will say it again: thank you.

Kind regards

Mr Moss

Minchinhampton Church of England Primary Academy
School Road, Minchinhampton, Stroud, Gloucestershire GL6 9BP
Head Teacher: Mr Nick Moss
t: 01453 883273 f: 01453 884829
e: admin@minchschoo.net
www.minchacademy.net

