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27<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

May I start by thanking you for your patience as I, along with your Headteachers and wider staff work hard to manage the wider re opening of our Trust Schools across four local authorities. When I last wrote to you I wanted to give you an indication of our thoughts about how, and when, we would look to the wider re-opening of our schools.

On Sunday the Government published further guidance regarding how we manage the Early Years settings in each of the schools and this had led to a further re-drafting of our risk assessments and today we have heard from two local authorities who are phasing back the wider re opening to the 15<sup>th</sup> June. We have also heard from a number of you who are Key Workers who now wish to take up a place for your child where this has not been required previously. In light of this and the need to ensure clarity around numbers in school when implementing and reviewing risk assessments I have asked Directors of the Trust to agree a delay in wider opening.

I realise this decision will be incredibly difficult for some of you as your employers may now require you to return to work. I also know the vast majority of our children want to come back to school to continue their learning and socialise with their friends. However, the safety of your children and our school staff will always take precedence and we need to ensure staff have time to properly prepare and plan for each stage of re-opening under their school's risk assessment.

With this in mind please see our reviewed timetable below:

1 <sup>st</sup> June:	Key worker Children and Vulnerable Children
8 <sup>th</sup> June:	Key worker Children and Vulnerable Children
15 <sup>th</sup> June:	Nursery (If applicable) and Reception
22 <sup>nd</sup> June:	Year 1
29 <sup>th</sup> June:	Year 6

More details will follow from each of our schools along with a link to the Risk Assessment that has been created for each setting on school websites.

Thank you again for your patience and understanding.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "P. Rickeard".

**Paul Rickeard**  
**Chief Executive Officer**  
**Durham Diocesan MAT**