

BIDWELL BROOK SCHOOL

SHINNER'S BRIDGE, DARTINGTON,
DEVON, TQ9 6JU
t: 01803 864120

e: admin@bidwellbrook.devon.sch.uk



ELLEN TINKHAM SCHOOL (COLLEGE)

WAYSIDE CRESCENT, EXETER,
DEVON EX1 3LF
t: 01392 482533

e: college@ellentinkham.devon.sch.uk

MRS JACQUI WARNE - EXECUTIVE HEAD

ELLEN TINKHAM SCHOOL (PRIMARY)

HOLLOW LANE, EXETER, DEVON, EX1 3RW t: 01392 467168 e: school@ellentinkham.devon.sch.uk

22nd May 2020

TO ALL FAMILIES

Dear Parents & Carers,

Across this week, we have been contacting all our families and staff teams to establish how many children, young people and staff will be in school before September 2020. We now have the complex task of creating small "bubbles" of children and staff to work together, and these groups or "bubbles" will be fixed in order to reduce the risk of infection.

For the week beginning Monday 1st June, we will be largely following our current rota. You will be contacted if we are able to place your child in school straight after half term. Senior Leaders will be continuing to plan for additional pupils to return to school as quickly and safely as possible. This will be done on a gradual basis and we will be liaising with families direct regarding your child/children.

During next half term, we will also begin to open on Mondays but only for the most medically vulnerable children to be in school. This is the only safe way for some of our children to have any access to school. We are working closely with health professionals on this.

Government guidelines are very clear that special schools will not follow mainstream school expectations regarding year groups, but can carefully plan their own phased return based on their own risk assessments. This includes reviewing the size of rooms, staffing available and the particular risks linked to children's needs (including their particular vulnerability).

I appreciate this is not an ideal situation but we are still in the midst of a dangerous pandemic with known cases at a higher level now than when schools originally closed. As we have been doing, we will continue to support you with contact calls after half term if you want them, and with our regularly refreshed home learning sites (look out for alerts on Facebook). During half term, please feel free to access the online home learning from both Federation schools – <https://bidwellbrook.devon.sch.uk/> and <http://ellentinkham.devon.sch.uk/>

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jacqui Warne".

Jacqui Warne
Executive Head



Devon
County Council

SENTIENTRUST
inspire • empower • enable

Learn To Live College