

MONDAY 21 SEPTEMBER 2020

VERBAL UPDATE ON THE REOPENING OF SCHOOLS

Purpose of report:

Regarding a verbal update on the reopening of schools to be received pursuant to a recommendation made by the Select Committee on 28 July 2020 following its consideration of a report on the council's preparations for school reopening.

Background

1. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, education settings closed on 20 March 2020. Throughout the subsequent period, places were offered to vulnerable learners, children of critical workers, and those with Education, Health and Care plans.
2. In accordance with the Government's Recovery Strategy, published in May 2020, schools began to welcome back children from select years on 1 June, which was expanded on 15 June.
3. All pupils will return to school at the start of the Autumn Term, 1 September 2020.
4. On 28 July 2020, a report detailing the council's plans for the reopening of educational settings in Surrey was considered by the Children, Families, Lifelong Learning and Culture Select Committee.¹ At that meeting, the Select Committee recommended that the Cabinet Member for All-Age Learning give a verbal update on the reopening of schools at the next meeting of the Select Committee, on 21 September 2020. A verbal update was recommended as it would not have been practicable for Education, Lifelong Learning and Culture to evaluate the reopening of schools and draft a report that complied with the reporting timescales for the September meeting of the Select Committee, due to schools reopening on 1 September.

¹<https://mycouncil.surreycc.gov.uk/documents/s68727/PREPARATIONS%20FOR%20THE%20REOPENING%20OF%20SCHOOLS%2028th%20July%202020%20v2.pdf>

Recommendations:

1. That the Children, Families, Lifelong Learning and Culture Select Committee note the council's implementation of its plans for the reopening of schools.

Report contact

Liz Mills, Director – Education, Lifelong Learning and Culture

Contact details

Tel: 020 8541 7608, Mob: 07968 834579, Email: liz.mills@surreycc.gov.uk

Sources/background papers

PREPARATIONS FOR THE REOPENING OF SCHOOLS

<https://mycouncil.surreycc.gov.uk/documents/s68727/PREPARATIONS%20FOR%20THE%20REOPENING%20OF%20SCHOOLS%2028th%20July%202020%20v2.pdf>