

PRINCIPAL: PEGGY MURPHY, MA
HEAD OF LOOSE SITE: TIM WILLIAMS, MA (Ed)
HEAD OF SATELLITE PROVISION: RICHARD DALTON, BA
BOUGHTON LANE, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME15 9QF
TEL: OFFICE 01622 743925
EMAIL: office@five-acre.kent.sch.uk
WEBSITE: www.fiveacrewood.co.uk



19th March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers and Staff,

We are writing to provide you with a daily update with regards to ongoing coronavirus (COVID-19) developments.

Over the past few days, we have highlighted the rising numbers of absences with our staff linked to illness and self-isolation guidance due to coronavirus symptoms.

- On Monday 16/03/2020, 24 members of staff were absent due to illness and / or self isolation
- On Tuesday 17/03/2020, 38 members of staff were absent due to illness and / or self isolation
- On Wednesday 18/03/2020, 62 members of staff are absent due to illness and / or self-isolation
- Today (19/03/2020) we have 83 staff absences linked to illness and / or self-isolation

At the time of writing this letter, we have yet to receive clarification from the government re. the finer details of the directive to close Schools from Friday afternoon.

Key practical issues that need to be resolved include the provision of education that will need to be offered to vulnerable students and those children of key workers, and clear, definitive clarification of 'key workers' from the Government. As we are sure you will appreciate, alongside this we need to carefully risk assess our own ability to potentially be able to offer a reduced provision, based upon our staffing capacity (taking into account issues such as absence, appropriate staff ratios, and having staff in place with the right training for, and specialist knowledge of, pupils) coupled with an evaluation of pupil need.

We continue to put contingency plans in place to support our School community, including home learning opportunities, safeguarding measures, provision for pupils that are entitled to free School meals and ongoing communication strategies.

Thank you for your patience and understanding at this very challenging time. We will be in contact with you with further updates. If you have any questions in the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Kind regards

Tim Williams
(Headteacher, Boughton Lane)

Richard Dalton
(Headteacher, Satellite Provision)

