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15th April 2020

Dear Parents/Carers and Staff,

Updates

- We hope that you have had an enjoyable and safe Easter.
- We would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank the staff who have supported the small number of pupils that needed to be in School over the Easter holidays. We are incredibly grateful for your outstanding commitment and support.
- 319 out of 560 families (56.9%) responded to the online survey that we sent out on the 7th April. We therefore assume that the families who have not completed this survey do not require provision after Easter.
- The parents who have requested support will be notified via e-mail today of the provision you have been allocated.
- As anticipated, the survey that we sent out to staff has indicated that we have a limited number of staff available to work in a pupil facing role next term.
- Theoretically, Term 5 should start on Thursday 16/04/2020. However, we will need to remain closed on Thursday 16th April and Friday 17th, to allow us to focus on planning and staff training. We will re-open for the small number of pupils that need to be in School, on Monday 20th April.
- We have not been able to offer 5 day per week provision for any pupils. We fully understand that the priority for all families will be their own children; unfortunately, given our staffing capacity we have had to prioritise provision and make some very difficult decisions, in collaboration with other professionals e.g. Social Services and the Local Authority.
- We ask that you respect our decisions – we have done our very best with the limited resources available to us, and the challenges we face right now, to support as many people as we can, whilst doing our best to prevent the spread of coronavirus.
- Scientific advice on how to further limit the spread of COVID-19 is very clear - if children can stay safely at home, they should. The School also strongly agrees with the view of Professor Adam Boddison (Chief Executive – The National Association For Special Educational Needs) that the decision for any pupil to be in School should be the last resort rather than the default option.

Take care all.

Kind regards

The Senior Leadership Team

