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13th May 2020

Dear Parents/Carers and Staff,

Updates

We are continuing to develop and implement our 'Controlled Growth Plan', in order to safely accommodate more children and young people in school from 1st June.

As mentioned in our updates on 11th May, we are not focusing on specific year groups (which is consistent with recent Government guidance that has been issued for Special Schools).

We are not planning to return to class based learning and education for pupils before September at the earliest. We will continue to provide respite support in school to support pupils and families during this challenging time, with an emphasis on ensuring we are able to limit interactions between people to reduce the risk of spreading coronavirus. The more pupils, staff and transport personnel that we have on site the higher the risk of transmission of the coronavirus.

As part of this planning it is going to be vital to understand the demand for pupils to be in school. Parents will not be fined for not sending pupils into school; if parents feel it is safer for their child to remain at home, we will fully support you in this decision and continue to be in contact with you. **Our position is very clear - if children and young people can stay safely at home during the Covid 19 Pandemic, they should.**

Please can you therefore complete the following google form survey <https://forms.gle/wRVvxVEt7ua4CJqx9> (press Ctrl and click on the link)

Please complete this by Friday 15th May 12.00 midday. If we do not receive a completed response, we will assume that you do not wish your child to attend school, at the present time.

We will not be able to offer 5 day per week provision for any pupils, and we will have to allocate the provision that is available on a priority basis. We fully understand that the priority for all families will be their own children; unfortunately, given our likely staffing capacity we realise that we will not be in a position to prioritise everyone, and we will have to make some very difficult decisions, in collaboration with other professionals e.g. Social Services and the Local Authority. Please respect our decisions – we will always try to do our very best with the resources available to us, and the challenges we face right now. We do not want to come into conflict with you.

We are sure you will appreciate that we cannot guarantee the provision we will be able to offer. We will confirm this with you in due course.

Finally, we would like to thank everyone for your effort and support during this incredibly challenging period; it is a privilege to work with you all.

Take care all.

Kind regards

The Senior Leadership Team

