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8th June 2020

Dear Parents/Carers and Staff,

Updates

Changes to provision

We are currently being inundated with requests for new school based provision and / or increased provision for pupils.

We fully appreciate how truly challenging a period of time this is for you and your families.

Until now :

- The vast majority of our 'bubbles' have consisted of 1 child, supervised by 1 specific adult, working in a dedicated classroom space
- The re-opening of our satellite provision on 09/06/2020 will see a small number of pupils working in larger 'bubbles' (of up to 4/5 pupils), with one or two specific members of staff.

Working in this way, we have now reached our capacity in terms of the space we have at school and the staff that are available to support pupils.

In order to accommodate the increased demand for School based provision, we have no option but to increase the size of all the 'bubbles' that pupils are working in. These 'bubbles' will be kept as consistent as possible in order to reduce contact between people. However, we need to emphasise that, given the needs of our pupils, it will not be possible for many of them to socially distance.

We must also continue to re-iterate that, given our significantly reduced staffing compliment and available space, we cannot guarantee that pupils will be supported by familiar staff in a familiar area. We are sure you will also understand that as we have an overview of the school, pupils and staff, we are best placed to make decisions regarding the pupils and staff in each 'bubble'.

We ask that you respect and understand the incredibly difficult decisions that we are having to make. We fully understand that the priority for all families will be their own children; however, as a School we have a duty to consider the needs of all pupils and to do our very best with the limited resources available to us right now. We are sorry, but we cannot accommodate individual preferences. We do not want to come into conflict with you.

We fully understand that some families may not be comfortable with 'bubbles' increasing in size, and that you may therefore choose to now keep your child at home.

Contact

We are very mindful of the fact that we are sending out a lot of information to families and staff via email and Parentmail. As a 'back up' we are also placing this information on the School website. However, it continues to be worryingly clear that people are not accessing this information. We appreciate how difficult things are right now – however, in order to make best use of our resources, and the support we can provide you with, please can we ask that all communications read.



Please ensure that we have your up to date contact information, including email address, as this is our primary form of communication. To update your email on our system please send an email to office@five-acre.kent.sch.uk, clearly identifying your name, child and class.

Take care all.

Kind regards

The Senior Leadership Team

