

2<sup>nd</sup> November 2020

Dear Parents/Carers and Staff,

### Updates

- As you will know, on Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> October the Prime Minister announced plans for a four week lockdown in England, from Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> November, to tackle the spread of coronavirus.
- The Prime Minister made it clear however that Schools, Colleges, Universities and other Childcare providers will continue to remain open during this period.
- Other than this announcement and the speculative information now being circulated in the media, we have not yet received any further guidance.
- We therefore continue to follow current Government advice, as reflected in our current policy and procedures, and outlined in the following key documents –

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-for-full-opening-special-schools-and-other-specialist-settings/guidance-for-full-opening-special-schools-and-other-specialist-settings>

<http://www.fiveacrewood.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/FAW-Full-Opening-Risk-Assessment-September-2020.pdf>

- Whilst the Government last updated their own guidance on the 16<sup>th</sup> October, we note that they have now indicated that they will be reviewing and updating this shortly, following the Prime Ministers announcement on the 31<sup>st</sup> October.
- We hope that the arrival of this latest document will enable us to answer some of the questions that you are asking us right now. Once we have received this information we will immediately review and update our own working practices and share these with you.

We fully appreciate the uncertainty this latest announcement may have caused; we will continue to make pragmatic decisions regarding how best to manage the School during these challenging times, which carefully balance the expectations of the Government with the health and wellbeing of our entire community. As such, we will continue to consolidate and build upon our learning to date, and the actions, practices and risk assessments that we have put in place since March 2020.

Finally, please can we remind you to immediately report all symptoms and confirmed cases of Coronavirus to our dedicated School track and trace team, by email to [trackandtrace@five-acre.kent.sch.uk](mailto:trackandtrace@five-acre.kent.sch.uk)

Take care all.

### The Senior Leadership Team

