

19th June 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I wanted to write to update you regarding school and COVID 19.

The school continues to provide home learning and virtual support to our students. We have increased the number of doorstep visits to families to support home learning and the wellbeing of our students.

We now have three student bubbles on site, and we have increased the size of the bubbles to accommodate more students (5 students at any one time), which in turn has required more rooms. The school is actively reviewing the situation to invite more students to return to site, but this will need to be limited to a rota system with students on site for a reduced number of days a week.

Next week, we intend to expand to a fourth bubble and another bubble the following week. This will mean we will have five bubbles in total on site with some rotation of students within their identified bubbles. We believe under the current government guidance, and in particular due to the two-metre rule, this will be the maximum number of bubbles, and therefore the maximum amount of students school will be able to accommodate on site till the end of term. This is the case unless government guidance on school COVID 19 delivery is relaxed further.

We are committed to returning as many students safely to site as soon as possible in line with the risk assessment available on the [school website](#).

There are number of operational factors that are preventing large numbers of students returning to the site:

•Accommodation –

- School has small classrooms in comparison to mainstream schools, so social distancing compliant spaces are limited, allowing for a small number of students and staff members at any one time.
- A limited number of toilet facilities on site to ensure each bubble does not need to share.

•Student to Staff Ratio –

- School predominately functions on 3 students to 1 staff member ratio. This presents challenges as staff availability may be lower due to medical or personal circumstances.

•Local Authority (LA) Provided Transport –



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- LA Transport has been adjusted to support social distancing where possible which has in turn reduced the amount of LA transport available.
- The LA also have a reduction in staff available to support the school run.
- School is also requesting students either travel in bubble groups or alone to reduce the risk of transmission between bubbles which again reduces the amount of transport available.



Unfortunately, there is high possibility that there will a number of students who will not be able to return to site until the Autumn Term and we therefore prioritising those with the highest needs in terms of key worker status, vulnerability, and EHCP progress.

With this in mind, attached is survey to help us understand how your child is engaging with home learning. This will assist improvements in the quality of home learning materials and the support you and your child are receiving.

If you feel your child would benefit from a visit on site whilst remaining in the home learning cohort please indicate in the survey [attached](#).

Thank you for continuing to work with us during this difficult time.

Kind regards,

Emma Sullivan
Principal



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