

Corporate Services  
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Date: 12<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

**COVID-19 Update further to Government Update – May 2020**

I am writing to you further to the updates from the Government over the last couple of days regarding the planned incremental changes to previous “lockdown” guidance.

We, like many other organisations are in the process of clarifying what the changes mean to us, and how we can start safely planning to re-open our teaching centres, whilst adhering to social distancing guidelines and safe working practices that in no way compromises the health and well being of our children, their families, and our staff.

Yesterdays’ guidance details actions for education and childcare settings to prepare for wider opening from 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020 for particular year groups, but also goes on to say that special schools and hospital schools should be working towards a phased return for more young people without a specific focus on year groups, but rather based on risk assessments.

This is the work that the Senior Leadership Team and Centre Leaders are currently undertaking in conjunction with the Local Authority, and we will provide further clarity over the next week or so on who we’ll be open to, and what our provision will look like. It would however be really useful to gauge your thoughts and feelings regarding your child returning to school as of the 1<sup>st</sup> June, so please can you complete this brief survey here <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/9PSNQFD>. This will also help inform what numbers we need to start planning for.

**We are obviously very aware that a number of you might now have to return to work, and will need to send your child into school as you have no other alternative for childcare. If this is the case, please can you notify your child’s Centre Leader, or keyworker as soon as possible and let us know how soon you would need to send your child back to school.**

As you can imagine, not all our staff are currently able to return to work safely, so we will be making decisions around where provision is offered - across our different sites, and by what staff, on a week by week basis. Wherever possible, we will endeavour to ensure that your child is supported with their learning with staff that know them well.

We will continue to be contacting you at least once a week whilst your child is not attending school to carry out our welfare checks. It is really important that we talk to both yourselves and your child during these times. Please continue to communicate with the relevant staff at your child’s Centre about anything we can do to support you during these very challenging times. Learning material will continue to be available through the e-learning platform.

Continue to keep yourselves and your families safe and healthy, and we will update you with news and developments as we get them.

Yours faithfully



**Tosin Gabriel**  
Vice Principal – Head of Parkway, Northfield and Dovedale Centres