



11th May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

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Firstly, thank you for everything you have done and continue to do you support your children, families and communities to stay safe during the Covid-19 pandemic. You will be aware that last evening, the Prime Minister announcement the shape of a plan towards relaxing some measures brought in to curb the virus' spread. Some of the points that the Prime Minister focused on related to schools and those are the points I am writing to you about today.

The Prime Minister has said that so long as there is a continued decline in the spread of Covid-19 across England then from June 1st some pupils of primary school age will be able to return to school. Some children who are of secondary school age and taking exams may be able to have time with their teachers before the summer holiday this year.

Our school has remained partially open to pupils throughout this period, providing learning and support to children in school and at home. Our approach works by regularly talking with you, our families, so that decisions made are in your children's best interests. Our approach will remain precisely the same as we go through the coming weeks and months. We base our decision-making on a set of simple guiding principles, which I am pleased to share with you.

- We will maintain strong partnerships with all stakeholders through our risk-based approach, so that each child is supported in a manner that best suits them during the Covid-19 period
- We prioritise the safety and mental, emotional and physical wellbeing of pupils and staff
- We have a well-defined approach for gaining confidence of the children, parents, carers and staff - so everyone can prepare and plan for the changes together

- We plan transitions so that they reflect government guidance, including where certain groups of pupils should be prioritised
- We seek to support all pupils through recognition of their unique abilities, needs and backgrounds
- We will use the guidance available to support increased numbers of people working in our school.

During the coming weeks, I will write to you with further details of our plans for after ½ term. For now, we aim to continue supporting each child in the very best way we can based on our guiding principles. If you are now considering how you will return to work following the Prime Minister's announcement, please do get in touch with the school to discuss how we can support your child.

As always your child's teacher/key classroom lead will continue the positive liaison with you, supporting through the weekly phone call and by regularly sending work for those learning from home; Thea our Designated Teacher for LAC, Senior SMT Member from Havelock and Richard, Manager of our 16-22 Campus will also be available as am I, Lucy Deputy Principal and our Trans-Disciplinary Team.

I will also ensure that you are kept posted by our twice weekly newsletter.

I thank you again for your support and please do let us know of any queries that you have by contacting the above or through our school email address – sybil.elgarschool@nas.org.uk

With kindest wishes

Yours faithfully

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Chloe Phillips
PRINCIPAL