Chief Executive Officer Kevin Latham

Chief Operating Officer Esther Bushell

Chief Finance Officer Anthea Murphy

12th May 2020

Creating Tomorrow COVID-19 Update

Dear families,

I hope that this letter finds you well, and that you and everyone in your household is safe.

I am writing following the Prime Minister's announcement on Sunday and the subsequent guidance that came out to schools yesterday afternoon.

As you are aware, the government has set out a 'road map' to recovery with 3 phases, phase 1 is the gradual reduction in lockdown restrictions with phase 2 starting June 1st at the earliest, including the gradual increase in children attending schools.

You will have heard that the government is focussing upon primary aged children. However, in special schools, we have been asked to continue to follow previous guidance "Conducting a SEND risk assessment during the coronavirus outbreak", to slowly increase the numbers across all age ranges. Therefore for children who it is risk assessed to be safe, they will return to schools when appropriate measures are put in place to enable them to do so safely.

Therefore, across the trust, the headteachers and trust leadership are working together, using the latest advice and guidance, to plan how to safely increase numbers in our schools from the 1st June. We will be considering how to implement social distancing measures, which is likely to include changes to the environment and reduced class sizes, and therefore children will return on a reduced timetable (the government do not expect the majority of children to be in full-time before the end of the summer term). We need to consider how to support your child back into school, and the most appropriate curriculum to deliver when back at school, which will include preparation for transition to their next stage.

As soon as we have further details your school will be in touch to set out how they will be supporting your child.

Once again, as we have said throughout the pandemic, our primary focus is the safety and wellbeing of your child and our staff, and so all decisions will be based on this ethos.

Please look after yourselves and your loved ones

Yours faithfully

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