



Springfield School

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**SEN SPECIALIST
SCHOOLS**

Wednesday, 13 May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you are all keeping well and safe.

We have been working in response to the Prime Ministers announcement last Sunday for Primary schools to open from 1st June in specific year groups.

Guidance has now been released for special schools which is understandably different from mainstream schools and it states that **'Special Schools will work towards a phased return of children without a specific focus on year groups' this is unlikely to be Primary aged children.** This is due to the inability to ensure safe social distancing between children and staff.

We are currently working closely with other special schools and the Local Authority in response to the new guidance that is being issued daily.

Schools will only be able to open when they have everything in place that ensures that both staff and parents feel confident that we can keep all members of our school community safe. This means we will be considering children's journeys to and from school, arrival and movement around school, safe numbers in classrooms, playtimes and mealtimes, personal care etc. In addition, most importantly how our children will cope with the changes being put into place and their transition back into school.

Although the Government has asked us to encourage parents to send pupils into school there **will still be an element of choice for all our parents.** In addition, those children with underlying health issues will remain at home until further notice.

I will continue to keep you updated with the information as I receive it. It would not be helpful for me to speculate about what could happen therefore I will continue to provide you with accurate information as I receive it. I would hope to be in a position to write to you again at the beginning of next week.

We will still be providing care for the following pupils who fall into these categories after half term:

- A parent as a Key Worker (This will be when the parent / parents are working - not a full-time provision)
- A child with a Social Worker who is at risk of a family breakdown.

We will continue to offer **distance learning for every child** this will involve a weekly planner of activities, online sessions where possible and a personal phone call / email from your class teacher. I am available to be contacted at anytime through e-mail or by leaving a voice mail on the school answerphone.

If you have any immediate concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me

I want to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support during uncertain and difficult times.

Kind Regards

L Hodgkison

Lisa Hodgkison

Headteacher

