

13<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **Update on Discovery's Response to COVID 19**

I wanted to get in touch again following the Prime Minister's announcements concerning schools on Sunday evening. The Prime Minister announced for schools (including special schools) that 1<sup>st</sup> June is the provisional target date for the phased return of more children and young people. For our school, we will not be focusing on returning specific year groups, it will be informed instead by a Risk Assessment approach for each individual - as we have been doing – working towards increasing the number of children in school.

We will not make any changes to current provision until we have conducted thorough risk assessments, received further confirmation from government to proceed and are fully confident ourselves that we can keep everyone safe. I will keep you updated when this is all in place.

In the meantime I wanted to let you know about some of our considerations to keep everyone safe whilst increasing the number of children in school. This may impact your child in the following ways:

- Your child may work in a different group / classroom than usual
- Those who have been at home may start to increase their time in school
- Those already coming into school may need to adjust or limit their timetable

Please try not to be concerned about the changes - whatever happens we will do our best to manage the transition process, keep you informed and work with you about the specific details for your family. As always the health, safety and wellbeing of all the families who may be returning and for our staff remain paramount in the action planning going forwards.

The government has given the following guidance about protecting clinically vulnerable adults at home:

- Your child can attend school if there is someone who is clinically vulnerable (but not clinically extremely vulnerable) at home, including those who are pregnant
- If there is someone who is extremely clinically vulnerable at home, as set out in the guidance on shielding, it is advised that your child only attends school if stringent social distancing can be adhered to and if they are able to understand and follow those instructions. We will talk with you individually if you are affected by this and agree a plan.

Our thinking at present is that there can be no wholesale changes to current procedures as we await the scientific data report on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> May. The w/b 1<sup>st</sup> June will look very much like this week – we will postpone our scheduled training day and hence pupils will have access to provision on the 1<sup>st</sup> June. Our LAB meet next week and I have tabled a series of proposals to them about our return, I will be able to update you again next week.

Thanks again for your ongoing partnership and support together with us to get through this unusual time in the best way possible. Please feel free to get in touch with any concerns or to discuss things. I am also attaching some links to the government pages below.

Stay safe

Matthew

## Links to Latest Government Information for Parents

- [Q&A](#) which answers key questions parents may have
- [Guidance for parents on phased reopening of education settings](#)
- [Guidance for parents on supporting learning at home](#) for early years and primary age children (secondary school guidance to follow)
- List of [online resources](#) to support children's development