

19th March 2020

Re: Coronavirus – Update 2

Dear Parents and Carers

The health and safety of everyone continues to be our highest priority and, to this end, we remain committed to following advice regarding limiting the spread of the virus. We have important news to share with you.

Government Update

This afternoon the Prime Minister and the Education Minister have both made announcements with regard to schools closing. The news generally being circulated is that all schools are closing, however this is somewhat misleading. Schools must be open to vulnerable groups and for children of front line workers. The DFE is clear that all our children fall into this DFE 'vulnerable child' category as every child with an EHCP is deemed vulnerable.

ALL OUR SCHOOLS ARE REMAINING OPEN for care and education. If your child is well and no family members are ill or self-isolating you should send your child to school as normal.

Our Plans

We are dynamically risk assessing each school all the time in light of the information we receive from the schools and from the relevant agencies. We continue to follow the published general principles on preventing the spread of infection within our schools.

At the moment we have sufficient staff for the numbers of children in school and also have agency staff who we can call upon should we need to. Pupils are still enjoying coming to school and having their lessons. We are equipped to look at a staged approach to managing fluctuating group numbers of children and staff should we need to so that lessons can continue in school.

Home Learning/Public Examinations

We are advancing our planning to continue to provide learning resources to our pupils in the event that they need to be at home. These will be on our website soon.

The government has announced today that there will be no public examinations in the summer this year. Our older pupils will however continue with their studies as normal and continue to gain skills and knowledge that are important for them in becoming as independent as they can be.

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Getting Advice

The Department for Education coronavirus helpline is available to answer questions about COVID-19. Staff, parents and young people can contact this helpline by telephoning 0800 046 8687
Opening hours: 8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday), 10am to 4pm (Saturday to Sunday)

Contacting You

Further updates will be sent to parents in due course via Parentmail. Please keep your school informed of changes to contact details and mobile phone numbers. Should parents wish to contact the Trust, please email enquiry@fet.ac

Best wishes to you all
Yours sincerely



Jane Edgerton
Chief Executive

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