



Parent Update –March 20th 2020

We continue to work hard to compile lists of pupils who might be eligible for care in one of our schools on Monday. I would like to thank staff in all the schools and especially the Headteachers and leaders of those schools who are being asked to do the impossible in record time.

I would like to ask you to really consider the requests you are making. If you are asking for childcare because your employer is difficult or because you are working from home please think again. **If you can keep your child at home safely the guidance is that you should do so. The government has already mandated working from home – everyone has to do their best to adjust. We are not employers nor are we government. I am trying to keep my staff safe as well as ensure that we do our bit to keep essential services running. I am trying to follow social distancing and isolation guidance that I believe can save lives. Pupils who take up places in care, who could be looked after at home should be.**

We are trying to pull this together, but we will not be able to offer everyone who has requested it and we are prioritising pupils where **both** parents work on the frontline.

This week like never before school staff have been asked to step up. They have responded marvellously. Please can I implore you to follow the government guidance and keep your child at home where possible.

I would like to reiterate that we are offering care – we are not offering an educational provision with a teacher, teaching lessons.

If you are a frontline worker and you have requested a place in one of our schools on Monday you will be informed by email later in the afternoon – probably after school closes.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Alice Witherow'.

Alice Witherow
Chief Executive Officer