

SEN School offer update – Special arrangements in relation to COVID 19

Following the closures of schools from the 23rd March 2020 Government guidelines stated:

Vulnerable children include those who have a social worker and those children and young people up to the age of 25 with education, health and care (EHC) plans.

Those with an EHC plan should be risk – assessed by their school in consultation with the local authority (LA) and parents, to decide whether they need to continue to be offered a school or college place in order to meet their needs, or whether they can safely have their needs met at home. This could include, if necessary, carers, therapists or clinicians visiting the home to provide an essential services. Many children and young people with EHC plans can safely remain at home.

Children with EHCP's

In order to ensure that our pupils with EHC plans are supported, we have consulted families about whether or not their child needs to attend school. We have ensured that the expectations for work being done at home is understood and that pupils can access the work being set by school staff. As a school, we are undertaking once every two weekly check ins to ensure that pupil outcomes are kept at the forefront and that their emotional needs are being met. Work set by class teachers takes into account the needs of the pupils in their classes and is open-ended in nature to allow pupils to engage with and further their own learning.

How can I help my child's learning at home?

If your child has an SEN need (EHCP or SEN support), the class teacher will take account of their needs when planning for and providing work to be completed at home. This may include:

- Suggesting different ways to present their work;
- Giving more detailed instructions;
- Providing parents with ideas to make learning more practical in nature;
- Providing alternative work which is targeted at their level of need

If you need specific resources for supporting your child during this time, please contact their teacher or the SENCO.

External agencies will only become involved if necessary following the usual graduated approach response detailed in the school offer

How can I help my child cope with the changes?

We understand that this is a significant change for many families. Please give yourself time to adjust to new routines and above all do not place too much pressure on yourself or your child to complete schoolwork. Maintaining positive mental health and emotional wellbeing is very important. Resources that support our pupils' emotional and social development during this unprecedented time have been uploaded onto the school blog in both the year group and whole school sections. These will continue to be updated as time passes. Also, the mental health charity MIND have provided some initial information, which we have shared below.

<https://www.mind.org.uk/information-support/coronavirus/coronavirus-and-your-wellbeing/>

We are aware that the transition period for our pupils with SEND has been greatly affected by the current situation and we continue to work with all colleagues within school and at the secondary schools our children will be attending to ensure that the information needed is shared. As the

summer term progresses, we will begin to send out transition style material that will endeavour to support all our pupils at this transitional time.

Who can I contact?

We realise these are difficult times for everyone. If you have any concerns or queries please contact your child class teacher or SENCO through our emailing facility that allows private conversations to be had between staff and parents. The SENCO can be reached at mrs.rich@wfps.org.uk