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Dear all,

In order to clarify what role SEN schools have in the government guidance, I hope you find the following information helpful.

Latest announcements from the government

There have been several documents released since Sunday that have talked about more pupils returning to school.

- Special Schools are **NOT** being asked to bring specific Year groups back into school. We are expected to continue offering school places to pupils from keyworker families and those pupils who are the very most vulnerable, mostly those with social care involvement
- We have been asked to continue gradually offering more places to pupils where it is safe to do so. We have been doing and this will continue to
- Nothing has changed and will not do so until we have clear evidence that it is safe for more pupils and staff to be in school
- We are not expecting children to return to school if parents and carers feel they are safer at home. There is no pressure to return. Home remains the safest place for the vast majority of pupils
- When pupils come to school we have to make sure we have enough staff with the appropriate knowledge and skills to meet the needs of our pupils. Currently we only have 50% of our staff available
- We have to try to maintain social distancing as best as we can and cannot have too many children and adults in school at any one time

Communication

- We will continue to phone families every week
- We will post information and updates on our website and Facebook page
- We will continue to use our text service regularly to inform you of any updates

Home Learning

- Home learning is available for every child in every class and we will continue to provide high quality home learning via both Seesaw and links on our Facebook page

Finally, thank you all for your support and the positive feedback we have been received supporting our staff team and the efforts they are going to, to keep in touch and provide creative activities for you to engage in with your child. Thanks also to all those staff in school for putting themselves "on the line" every week, making sure children are happy, engaged and well cared for.

Yours sincerely,

Niki Wilson

Headteacher