15/05/2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

**Letter regarding the latest update on school attendance**

Following the Government’s announcement on Sunday that schools may reopen from the 1st June to some year groups, further guidance was published to support schools in preparing for this.

As you are aware from previous information, Pivot Academy/Pivot Academy Leeds East have remained open for some pupils since lockdown began.

Previous advice regarding vulnerable children was that they should stay at home if they are safe to do so. The new advice is that vulnerable children should be encouraged to attend school. Staff will have been in contact with you to discuss this already.

From week commencing 1st June 2020 at the earliest, the guidance is that alternative provision will also provide some face to face support to supplement the remote educations of year 10 students who are due to take key exams next year, alongside the full time provision being offered to priority groups. **We will provide ongoing updates about this.**

We are reviewing the guidance and the implications for our schools in order that we can begin to plan for a phased reopening for more pupils and staff on site.

Naturally, this is a very unsettling time for us all, but rest assured that we aim to do everything we can to make sure that we are ready for a safe reopening for more pupils and staff in the coming weeks. We will keep you updated with all our preparations for ensuring that our settings are as safe as possible, and as ever will be following DfE and Government guidance to do so.

In the meantime, our schools are still open **only** for vulnerable pupils and the children of critical workers, however in line with the guidance outlined above we are likely to see an increase in our pupils who take up the offer as we encourage them to attend.

We must strongly advise to adhere to Government advice regarding social-distancing for your child and yourselves. The latest guidance is that nobody should be out in groups or with more than one person from a different household (only meeting outdoors and adhering to social distancing) **Young people should not be socialising with other young people outside of their own household in groups, going to houses other than their own, and we must strongly advise you to enforce this.** If we reasonably believe that young people are not following social-distancing and/or self-isolation (where applicable) guidance, we reserve the right to refuse entrance to school premises on this basis. We understand this can be difficult, but the advice is crucial to follow to protect your young person, yourselves, our other young people, and our staff who continue to work in this challenging time. More information on this can be found on <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public> and we will continue to keep our website up to date with all of the guidance issued by the Government.

We have created a survey that will be sent out to all parents and carers that will aid us in ensuring we have all the information we need to help us plan for a safe increase in numbers. Please work with us and complete this for the benefit of everyone. Staff can advise on the different ways in which this can be done.

As always you can contact key workers, use the school numbers and visit the website for further help and information, details below.

01484 766350 / 07960 695096 (Kirklees) or 0113 320 4069 / 07539 832764 (Leeds)

<https://pivot-group.uk/blog>

Please be reassured that the safety and wellbeing of our pupils and their families at this difficult time is our main priority. We are focused on ensuring that the return to school takes into account the experiences people have had over the last 8 weeks and we are here to fully support our young people back into education.

Yours Sincerely

Andrew Kitterick

Executive Head Teacher