

Addendum to SEND Information Report June 2020

Special arrangements in relation to COVID-19.

From the week commencing 1st June 2020, the Government announced plans for a phased return of some children to school. The children this affects in our setting are:

- year 6
- vulnerable children and children of critical workers – which the school has been supporting from the end of March

Churnet View Middle School will continue to be open to vulnerable children and critical workers. From the 15th of June, provided it is considered safe to do so, we will open further to the above year group.

For children who have an Education Health and Care (EHC) Plan, attendance is expected where it is determined, following a risk assessment, that their needs can be as safely or more safely met in the educational environment.

In order to ensure that our pupils with EHC plans are supported we have continued to consult families with regards to whether or not their child needs to attend school. In line with Government advice, there is a need to balance the risk. The following factors have been considered when risk assessing:

- the potential health risks to the individual from coronavirus, bearing in mind any underlying health conditions/ clinical vulnerability. For further information, refer to the guidance on [shielding and protecting people who are clinically extremely vulnerable from coronavirus](#)
- the risk to the individual if some or all elements of their EHC plan temporarily cannot be delivered in the normal manner or in the usual setting, and the opportunities to meet needs in a different way temporarily, for example, in the home or online or in a different way at school
- the ability of the individual's parents or carers or home to ensure that their health and care needs can be met safely week-round or for multiple weeks, bearing in mind the family's access to respite care. (This may be particularly important to consider, from 1 June, for those children and young people who are not in the year groups prioritised for a return to education settings.)
- any risk to siblings or family members if the child or young person's condition prevents or inhibits self-regulation and if their behaviours cannot be supported or managed by parents or carers at home
- the potential impact to the individual's wellbeing of changes to routine or the way in which provision is delivered
- any safeguarding risks for children with a social worker if not in school and the need to support care placements for looked-after children (see the [vulnerable children and young people guidance](#) for further information on school attendance for children with a social worker)

- any other out-of-school/college risk or vulnerability, for example, a child or young person becoming involved in dangerous behaviour or situations (including the risk of exploitation)

The Government guidance can be found by following this link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-send-risk-assessment-guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-send-risk-assessment-guidance>

If, after consultation with families, it is determined that their needs can be met in school, Churnet View Middle School will be providing the following:

- children will be taught in 'bubbles' with a small group of their peers and up to 2 adults
- children will have access to an adapted curriculum through the home learning that we are setting for pupils who are continuing to work from home
- children will have access to activities linked to the outcomes on their Education Health and Care Plans
- children will have access to any aids that they normally would to ensure that they can access the learning such as overlays for example
- children will have access to well-being activities and resources to support emotional well-being, such a social or emotional stories if deemed appropriate
- due to staffing capacity, other provisions will not be possible at this time

For some pupils with EHCPs, a risk assessment will determine that a gradual phased return to school is necessary so that the pupil can return to school when and in the way that is right for them in-line with their needs. This may be because of the risk to the individual. For example, if they are unable to follow the rules on social distancing safely or if some or all elements of their EHC plan temporarily cannot be delivered in the normal manner or in the usual setting. If this has been deemed the case, the school will contact those families regularly to create a timetable for a phased return after the 15th June. The timescale may vary for this and, in-line with Government advice, happen over a longer period of time. Careful preparation for their return will be needed and staffing capacity will need to be taken into account to ensure the safety of all pupils and staff.

The previous offer (shown below) still applies to SEND children who remain at home.

Following the closure 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 any essential services. Many children and young people with EHC plans can safely remain at home.

In order to ensure that our pupils with EHC plans are supported, we have updated risk assessments after consulting with families regarding 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. All pupils with SEND have a key worker who is contacting them on a regular basis. This key worker provides support and if necessary adapts or sends alternative work to the pupils.

The weekly check ins are to ensure that pupils' outcomes are kept at the forefront and that their emotional needs are being met. Work set by class teachers takes in to 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.

Parents of SEND are able to contact their key worker or class teachers via e-mail or telephone. The SENCo: Mrs Jukes and Assistant SENCo: Mrs Dow can be reached rjukes@tltt.org.uk or hdow@tltt.org.uk

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 alongside our secondary and first school colleagues to ensure that the information needed is shared. We will keep you informed as to any other transition opportunities that might be available as the summer term continues.

Resources that support our pupils' SEND needs during this unprecedented time have been uploaded on to the school website in the Coronavirus home learning section. These will continue to be updated as time passes.

External agencies will only become involved if necessary following the usual graduated response process detailed above.