

11TH May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you are keeping well and managed to enjoy some sun at the weekend.

I am sure many of you are watching the daily updates from the Government and waited with bated breath for the announcement last night. Some parents have relished having their children at home, with less rush and more time to spend time together, whilst other families have been struggling for various reasons.

Whilst the announcement last night indicated that schools should begin to offer more pupils a school place for certain year groups, the essence of this is to support transitions, exams and Statutory Assessments. Hence why it is Reception for phonics, YR1 for preparation for KS2 SATS and YR 6 to prepare for moving to Secondary School. There are also indications that the next year groups to be included are YR10, preparation for GCSE exams and YR12 preparation for 'A' Levels. As you are aware, at Kingfisher none of these benchmarks are pertinent to our setting, therefore we have to carefully consider if this is the best way forward.

We as a school need to look more closely and strategically on how we can increase the numbers within our school, whilst still maintaining the guidance on social distancing as much as possible. The impact of having pupils back in school will also have an effect with transport, which is another consideration.

As I have throughout this time, I am consulting with and taking advice from the Government, Unions and OCC Special Educational Needs. I am also meeting regularly with OASSH, the other Special School Headteachers.

We are also keeping abreast of parent feelings, via phone calls and email through the arranged weekly contact. Some parents are keeping us updated via FaceBook. In addition, I am be sending out a new survey to collect your views.

Please click here https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Pupil_Numbers_01-06-20

We aim to keep you updated as much as possible over this difficult time, unfortunately like everyone else in the country, we can only plan when new information is afforded to us by the Government. It would be irresponsible for me to look at daily media updates as this is generally opinion of the person who has written it and not policy.

Yours faithfully



Lorraine Wilson

Headteacher

Our Kingfisher View

Kingfisher-a place where everyone is valued to develop independence through an enriching curriculum which is worthwhile

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