



Off Rowan Avenue,  
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✉ Talk2Us@Southallschool.com

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*Head teacher: Mrs Abi Martin*

Dear Parents and Carers,

As a school community we want to firstly thank you for your kindness and understanding over this testing time. As a community, what has shone through, has been the sense of 'coming togetherness' and care for our pupils.

Late last night the guidance from government came out for schools. Please see below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

This guidance clearly states '**That parents must keep their children at home wherever possible**'. This is important because as a school for pupils with complex needs, we are unable to practice social distancing, and with a higher number of pupils in school, this will put children and staff at more risk. It is **important** that we keep our **front line workers children** well whilst they are in school so that these parents can continue to go to work. Please see the document above for a list of front line workers.

Yesterday, we rang families to ask whether parents / carers were front line workers and to check whether you were well. Today, we will be making telephone contact with you again. As your child has an educational, health, care plan, they are entitled to come into school if it is **not safe** for them to be at home.

Today we will be discussing the following:

What are your child's underlying medical needs?

What is your child's learning needs?

What is your child's social needs?

**Together**, we will then decide whether it is safer for your child to be at home or school.

It is hoped that by lunchtime we will have a final list of pupils who will then access our full-time provision on school site and we will contact these parents again at the end of the day.

**This will then mean that the partial opening letter will be out of date and must be disregarded after today.**

On Monday, the school will begin a new provision for our pupils -for those that are at home and for those that are in school.

**If your child is at home, you can expect the following:**

- Regular phone contact
- Regular home-schooling work tasks

**BRANCHING OUT TO NEW HORIZONS**



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- Email communication with tutors

It is also an opportunity, where possible, for you to spend time working on your child's EHCP outcomes.

**If your child is at school, our focus will be on mental wellbeing and nurture and you can expect the following:**

- Pupils will be grouped according to age and environmental need
- A familiar teaching team wherever possible (please note your child will not necessarily be with staff that they had in tutor groups)
- Regular phone contact
- Email communication with tutors

For these pupils, we will also discuss home to school transport needs

If your child is in receipt of free school meals, I know that the local authority is working hard to set up a scheme whether you are at home or school.

On a final note from me personally, whether your child is at home or at school, their well being and your well being matters to us. It is important that we continue to work as one school community, supporting one another and being kind to one another. We are a school family and Southall never fails to amaze me; our governors, staff, families and pupils are inspirational ..... in fact, we rock!!!

Take care and best wishes

Abi Martin

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