

17th March, 2022

CONTINGENCY PLAN – AM GROUPS

Dear parents/carers,

Due to critical levels of sickness absence, we will need to move to our contingency plan in order to keep the school open and safe for staff and children. Within special school, the expectation remains for staff to test twice a week for COVID and remain off work until having two negative tests.

From **Tuesday, 22nd March** your child will attend site for 3 lessons each day. **Your child will attend each morning 8.30am-11.30am.** They will be set 1hr of independent study tasks each day. This will be arranged for a period of 2 school weeks with transport in the first instance. Our plan is to return to full time education on site as soon as we can.

The reduction of time onsite is not a decision we take lightly, our school had significantly higher attendance than the Leicester school average throughout national lockdowns. Our setting, more than any in the city, relies on high levels of staffing and having those key staff and relationship available during points of crisis. We continue to feel that ensuring the safety of our staff and students on site each day is our absolute priority, as well as offering face to face education to all our children every day. Offering 3/5 lessons to all onsite each day, alongside daily independent learning tasks and remote intervention, will have the following benefits:

- Reduce the number of children and staff on site at any one time and therefore reduce the potential for COVID spread;
- Reduce the number of people we will have to isolate given a positive case of COVID.
- Due to increased staff capacity, we are highly unlikely to have to close down the school due to an inability to cover staff absence.
- Staff will remain onsite all day, every day, meaning that additional levels of support are available to the children in attendance at any one time.
- We will be able to continue to open our residential facility.

Minimising Coronavirus Risk

- Continue to keep children at home if they are showing symptoms of COVID or have tested positive.
- Continue to test your child twice a week with tests they can collect from school.
- If a member of your household or close contact have tested positive for COVID, your child can continue to attend school, but is advised to test daily for 7 days.
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If you have any questions regarding this letter, please do not hesitate to contact the school on 0116 2704922.

Yours sincerely,



Sara Marsh
Head Teacher