



Osborne School

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Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you all for your amazing response to the phone calls that I, and members of the Senior Leadership Team, made to you yesterday. Your support and kind words during these difficult times is very much appreciated. I now want to clarify our situation as it stands today.

In the early hours of this morning the Government issued updated guidance on provision for children whose families are key workers and those who may be vulnerable. This is the link to the guidance: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

Schools are being asked to open to provide care for a limited number of children, but this is not a statutory requirement. The Government has asked parents to keep their children at home wherever possible and ask schools to remain open only for those children who **absolutely need** to attend. We trust that parents will only ask for childcare if it is absolutely necessary. **All expectations regarding educational provision have been lifted, it will be about care, not education.**

For many children in special schools, it is safer for them to self-isolate for medical reasons, or to stay at home because the school routine will not be what they are used to. Staffing will also be different. It is important to stress that the fewer children making the journey to school and the fewer children in educational settings, the lower the risk that the virus can spread and infect vulnerable individuals in the wider society.

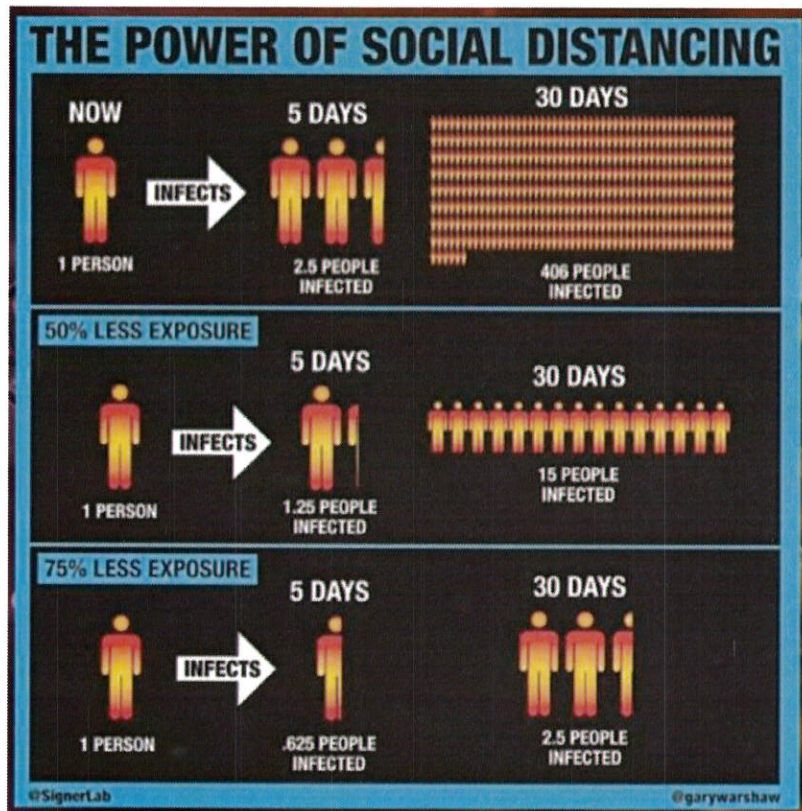
Following the phone calls we made yesterday we now have a good indication of those pupils who absolutely need to be accommodated and we will make the necessary provision.

Please do not send your child to school on Monday unless you have had confirmation that we are accepting your child for the childcare provision.

As set out in my previous letter there will be resources on the Learning Hub on the school website www.osborneschoolwinchester.com for pupils to access from home. The password for the hub is Hub2020.

The BBC has said that it will be increasing the range of its resources to support children's education and there are already numerous opportunities springing up on the internet – Joe Wicks, for example, will be delivering a PE lesson via YouTube from 9.00am every morning – a great opportunity to get the day started!

Please do keep an eye on the website as I will endeavour to post a weekly update to keep you informed. I hope the diagram below will guide you on the positive impact of Social Distancing.



Thank you again for your support through these unprecedented times and if you need to contact the school please do so in the usual way by phone or email.

Yours sincerely

Sonia White
Headteacher