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Dear Families.

I am sure that you will have heard the information from the government yesterday regarding school closures and exceptions to their rule. This talks about 'the most vulnerable' which they define as having a social worker or an EHCP.

I am waiting for further advice around this because as there is not enough information here to say how this applies to us. Our rationale for closure was around the medical vulnerabilities of our children and young people, not their educational needs. These medical needs are identified by Public Health England as including 'long term respiratory diseases such as asthma, heart conditions, neurological conditions including learning disability and cerebral palsy' and are described as 'underlying conditions to a person being high risk.' This then contradicts the criteria for having an EHCP as the reason to keep children in school. It is also nigh on impossible for our children and young people to exercise social distancing!

For now, I have taken the decision to carry on as planned, keeping a close eye on the developing situation and hopefully gaining a bit more clarity about what we need to do. As always, the safety of your children and our staff is paramount and this also includes having enough staff being fit and well to be able to come to school.

I really hope we will have some clarity soon and I will inform you by text, via our website or Twitter and Facebook about what we can do.

In the meantime, we will keep in touch with a phone call and maybe even a little visit. You can contact us via class email, office email or on a contact form on the website.

We will be sending out supermarket gift cards to those families whose children eat free school meals. We will do this until the Easter holidays, which is two weeks away. These will be £10.00 and for a supermarket near you. Hopefully by Easter, the measures spoken about by The Prime Minister will be in place and we will update you on this when we can.

Everyone here in school sincerely hopes we will all be back in school soon and back to normal.

Stay safe everyone and look after yourselves,

Kind regards

Janis

