



The Orchards School
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Head of School: Helen O'Brien

Friday 20th March 2020

Dear Parents / Carers,

Re: SCHOOL UPDATE

I would like to start by thanking you all for your amazing support, resilience and patience over this week. We realise that this is such a challenging time for our families and I know you have appreciated all the efforts our staff have made to try and make this time as easy as possible for you. I would like to take this opportunity to publicly praise The Orchard's staff team for their professional, caring and resilient response to such an unprecedented event. It has been with both pleasure and pride that I have led this team throughout this time and I know with absolute certainty that they will work tirelessly to support you and your children over the coming weeks and months.

Following the letter, you all received today from Trafford and the Special School Heads, I am pleased to inform you that currently The Orchard's School **will remain open**. At this time our staffing levels are allowing us to be able to support all families who wish to continue to send their children to school. I think it is important to share with you that this is likely to change as we will be risk assessing staffing levels and rates of infections whilst considering government guidelines on a daily basis. Today though we are satisfied that we have adequate staffing levels to ensure that your children are safe, happy and well cared for whilst in school.

All children who we are expecting in school next week have received a letter today confirming those arrangements and should be ready for transport as normal. Trafford Catering will continue to provide hot meals onsite for all children who wish to have them.

Parents who have chosen to keep their children at home during this time will continue to receive support from the class teacher as detailed in the letter earlier in the week. We will be updating the school website with lots of useful information and learning sites so please keep an eye out for that. School will continue to make daily contact with you as our ongoing duty of care. Please use this contact to request any support you may need.

Should you have any further questions then please do not hesitate to contact me via the school office.

Many thanks,

Helen O'Brien
Head of School



TOGETHER WE WILL
Challenge the ordinary
Promote individuality
Be advocates for change

