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Dear Parents,

As you know we are in a period of constantly changing advice about covid-19. Schools are open to vulnerable children and children of key workers. However the simple fact is that **all children (including both vulnerable children and those of essential workers) and adults (Staff and Parents) are safer at home than they are in school/work at the moment.**

We all have a duty to decrease the spread of the coronavirus and that will be achieved by social distancing. With that in mind we must reiterate the previously given guidance which is:

- If it is at all possible for children to be at home, then they should be.
- Parents should also do everything they can to ensure children are not mixing socially in a way which can continue to spread the virus. They should observe the same social distancing principles as adults.
- If you are a critical worker or have a vulnerable child you do not have to send your child to school. Every child who can be safely cared for at home should be.
- There is no requirement for parents and carers to send their children to school if they do not need or wish to do so.

We are likely to see an emerging picture of more parents deciding not to take up the offer of a place in the light of the growing importance of social distancing. We hope that the vast majority of parents will be able to understand and take on board these messages.

Yours sincerely,

J. Burt

