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Dear Parents and Carers

We are writing to you with an update on the child care provision that is available at Begbrook Primary Academy during the school closures.

Following a Trust-wide meeting this week, we have revised our Risk Assessment for this period. In an attempt to observe social distancing within a school setting, we have had to open up additional classrooms so that the children can be spaced out more effectively. We are also using different play spaces so that children and staff come into contact with as few people as possible during the day.

We would like to take this opportunity to echo the advice written by the Prime Minister, Boris Johnson, in his recent letter to all families. We understand the difficulties that this current disruption is having on your lives but the action to close schools is absolutely necessary. If too many people become seriously unwell at the same time, the NHS will be unable to cope. This will cost lives. We must slow the spread of the disease and reduce the number of people needing hospital treatment in order to save as many lives as possible.

This is why we are also giving one simple instruction – **stay at home.**

The school provision is not an academic or social one. The provision established at Begbrook is child care, set up only for children who cannot be safely cared for at home. If you are a critical worker who needs to be able to go out for work, you will be considered for a school place. However, we urge you to use this service as a last resort. Many families with a parent or carer working in a critical sector have been able to ensure their child is kept at home and we would like to thank those of you who have made adjustments to allow this to happen. If you can care for your children at home, please do so, as this will limit the chance of the virus spreading. This will enable us to remain open only for those children who absolutely need to attend.

It goes without saying that we want to thank all of our critical workers at this time – we are doing everything we can to support you. We would also like to thank those of you who are also doing your bit by staying at home.

Take care and be safe.

Kind regards,

Laurie Munro