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15/1/21

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we enter into week 3 of lockdown, please can I reiterate the message that the majority of children are safest if kept at home.

Last Friday evening the DFE announced that:

"Parents whose work is critical to the coronavirus (Covid-19) and EU transition response include those who work in health and social care and in other key sectors outlined in the following sections (*shared previously*). Children with at least one parent or carer who is a critical worker can go to school or college if required, **but parents and carers should keep their children at home if they can,**"

I would ask again that, even if you are eligible for a school place, you keep your child at home if you possibly can. We recognise the challenges of working from home and looking after your children, not to mind supporting them with home learning, and we will do everything we can to support you with this. We also recognise that many of our critical worker parents cannot work from home and we are more than happy, in those circumstances, to support you with school places.

We have carefully assessed how many children and adults can be safely accommodated in each of our classrooms. The numbers we have currently booked in, means that we have no more capacity and require a full staff to attend the school site every day. Plymouth CAST have introduced trust-wide prioritisation criteria to support schools in allocating places so that the school remains safe for children, staff and families. For the coming week we can accommodate all requests that we have so far received. If demand exceeds capacity in the future we will need to have the information to allocate places against these criteria. A second attachment to this email is a form which I would appreciate all critical worker families complete as soon as you can. Where this differs from the school's assessment, we will contact you.

Thank you for your ongoing support during these challenging times.

Yours sincerely,

BJ Gill