

Special arrangements in relation to COVID-19.

Following the closure of schools from the 23rd March 2020, Government guidelines stated:

Vulnerable children include those who have a social worker and those children and young people up to the age of 25 with education, health and care (EHC) plans.

Those with an EHC plan should be risk-assessed by their school in consultation with the local authority (LA) and parents, to decide whether they need to continue to be offered a school or college place in order to meet their needs, or whether they can safely have their needs met at home. This could include, if necessary, carers, therapists or clinicians visiting the home to provide any essential services. Many children and young people with EHC plans can safely remain at home.

In order to ensure that our pupils with EHC plans are supported we have consulted families with regards to whether or not their child needs to attend school and have completed the necessary risk assessments. Where external agencies are working with EHCP pupils to deliver support, we have been liaising with relevant teams to maintain provision and communication for the benefit of pupils and families. We have ensured that the expectations for work being done at home is understood and that pupils can access the work being set by school staff. As a school we are undertaking at least weekly check ins to ensure that pupil outcomes are kept as a priority and that their emotional needs are being met. Work set by class teachers takes in to account the needs of the pupils in their classes and is open-ended in nature to allow pupils to engage with and further their own learning.

Parents of SEND pupils may require our support at this time and all parents have access to the SENCO via e-mail which is mrafiq@uptoncourtgrammar.org.uk; other school staff can be contacted via the general e-mail address that is then forwarded to the relevant person. The general address is office@uptoncourtgrammar.org.uk

We are aware that the transition period for pupils with SEND who will be joining us in September 2020 has been greatly affected by the current situation and we continue to liaise with the primary school to ensure that the information needed is shared. As the summer term progresses we will begin to send out transition style material that will endeavour to support all our pupils at this transitional time.

Resources that support our pupils' emotional and social development during this unprecedented time are being provided by the SENCO and the SEND Team whilst additional resources can always be requested as per the pupil's individual needs. This will continue as time passes.

We continue to follow the graduated approach as needs arise.

Policy approved by the Governing Body 29th April 2020



To be reviewed April 2021