COVID-19 arrangements for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities at Fairstead Community Primary and Nursery School

School Name: Fairstead Community Primary and Nursery School

Date: 20/5/2020

Date shared with staff: 21/5/2020

In response to a partial reopening of schools from June 1st the following additions have been made to our SEND policy.

From the week commencing 1 June, the government announced plans for a phased return of some children to school.
https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/reopening-schools-and-other-educational-settings-from-1-june

The children this impacts are:

- children in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6
- vulnerable children and children of critical workers – they have been supporting since the end of March

Fairstead Community Primary and Nursery School will continue to be open to vulnerable children and key workers. From the 8th of June, provided it is considered safe to do so, we will open further to the above year groups.

For children who have an education health and care (EHC) plan, attendance is expected where it is determined, following a risk assessment, that their needs can be as safely or more safely met in the educational environment. In order to ensure that our pupils with EHC plans are supported we have continued to consult families with regards to whether or not their child needs to attend school. If it is determined that their needs can be met in school, we will be providing the following:

- Children will be taught in 'social bubbles' with a small group of their peers and up to 2 adults.
- Adult support will be available for younger children who may need support with social distancing.
- Children will have access to the curriculum through planned lessons, set by class teachers, which take into account the needs of the children.
- Children will have access to activities linked to the outcomes on their Education Health Care Plans.
- Children will have access to visual supports such as visual timetables, now and next cards or task cards.
- Children will have access to resources such as coloured overlays, ear defenders and sensory boxes.
- Children will have access to technology where appropriate, such as laptops and iPads.
- Children will have access to online provisions such as Dyslexia Gold and Oxford Owls.
- Children will have access to ELSA. This will include well-being activities and resources to support their emotional well-being, such a social or emotional stories.
- Due to staffing capacity, other provisions will not be possible at this time.

The previous offer (shown below) still applies to SEND children who remain at home.

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. 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 weekly check ins to ensure that pupils outcomes are kept at the forefront 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.
Class teachers and the Inclusion Team will send work for individual SEND children relating to the outcomes on their EHCP or SEND support plans.
Parents of SEND pupils may require our support at this time and the messaging facility on Class Dojo or by email using the year group email addresses allows for private conversations to be had between staff and parents. The SENCO can be reached at senco@fairstead.norfolk.sch.uk or by calling 07342364834.

We are aware that the transition period for our pupils with SEND has been greatly affected by the current situation and we continue to work alongside our secondary colleagues to ensure that the information needed is shared. We will keep you informed as to any other transition opportunities that might be available as the summer term continues.
Resources that support our pupils' SEND needs during this unprecedented time have been uploaded on to the school website in the SEND section. These will continue to be updated as time passes.
External agencies will only become involved if necessary following the usual graduated response process detailed in our school SEND policy.

Our school SEND policy can be found here:
http://www.fairsteadprimaryschool.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/SEN-policy-2019.20-14.1.20.pdf