



**Milestone Academy**  
Ash Road, New Ash Green  
Kent DA3 8JZ  
t: 01474 709420  
e: [info@milestoneacademy.org.uk](mailto:info@milestoneacademy.org.uk)  
w: [www.milestoneacademy.org.uk](http://www.milestoneacademy.org.uk)

Principal: Mr J N Jones BEd (Hons), NPQH

22nd May 2020

Dear parents / families

First of all, I trust this finds you and your household safe. As promised in my letter sent last Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May, I am now feeding back to all families and parents following your returns to the questionnaire I sent out this past Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May.

You will recall that I informed you all that I was seeking to plan for Term 6 in relation to the recent assertion the DFE has published – this was:

*“Special schools, special post-16 institutions and hospital schools to work towards a phased return of more children and young people without a focus on specific year groups and informed by risk assessments” (DFE Guidance: 11/05/2020).*

So let me first say a huge thank you to the majority of parents and families who have responded, whether wanting a place or not. This high number of responses has now enabled myself and my senior team to begin the planning towards how we at Milestone will seek to bring this phased return about during Term 6.

I am sure you will appreciate the gathering of this information is the first of many planning steps we will now need to undertake as we work towards a phased return of what will certainly be a ‘new normal’ across Milestone Academy. Examples of the planning steps I with my Senior Leadership Team need to make include:

- a matching of staff availability in relation to individual needs / risk assessment of each pupil wanting to return;
- reviewing the operation of the academy in the context of the continually updated requirements of Government’s Covid-19 legislation and our own risk assessments;
- considering specific DFE Covid-19 guidance for special school settings;
- examination of the logistical use of the site both inside and outside;
- liaising with KCC transport.

Thus, I wish to inform you today of my way forward:

- **At the start of the next term those pupils who have been attending up until the end of this term will continue to attend, primarily those of parents and families who are key workers. We will also undertake the work identified above;**
- **Once we have done this, I will then write to you to let you know how the next steps are to be implemented.**

Finally, can I thank you all for the way you have liaised with all of my colleagues and the way in which you have supported the home learning packages that we have provided. Equally I am sure you will want me to thank all of those who have been working with and liaising with families and pupils, whether they have been volunteering on site or understandably working from home.

Thank you for your ongoing support. I trust that your households are able to stay safe.

Yours sincerely

*Nigel Jones*

**Nigel Jones**  
Principal



Milestone Academy is part of Leigh Academies Trust



Shaping Lives, Transforming Communities