

14 May 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Re: Possible reopening of Supported Internships in June

We are sure many of you will have watched the Prime Minister's address to the nation Sunday night or have seen the detail in the news. The Prime Minister stated that schools may be in a position to implement a phased reopening, for Reception, Year 1 and Year 6, in mainstream provisions from 1<sup>st</sup> June, if it is deemed safe to do so at that time.

The guidance outlines that for Special Institutions such as Forward2Employment there is not the requirement to focus on the Year groups outlined above. Instead we will be looking at the individual businesses that the interns are working at and assessing whether it is viable for them to return. The 1<sup>st</sup> June is the earliest possible date we can consider the interns return to their work placements.

We received further guidance and clarification from the government on the evening of the 11<sup>th</sup> May, which we are using to help us create an action plan for our phased reopening. We'll share our plans with you as soon as possible so you know what our reopening will look like in practice, and the health and safety provisions we will make.

It's a very unsettling time for us all, but rest assured that we're going to be doing everything we can to make sure we and the host businesses are safe for the interns to return to in the coming weeks. We would like to reassure you that the safety and wellbeing of the interns, staff and the community will remain our priorities.

The Government provided updated guidance for parents and carers as schools and other education settings in England open to more children and young people. This guidance provides information on when and how nationally the government is opening education settings to more children.

The guidance can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-informationfor-parents-and-carers>

There has also been detailed guidance published on 'staying safe outside your home'

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/staying-safe-outside-your-home> explaining the new rules which are now in place as of the 13<sup>th</sup> May 2020.

The link below sets out key FAQ to inform the public and help you prepare for these changes.

Coronavirus outbreak FAQs: what you can and can't do:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-outbreak-faqs-what-you-can-and-cant-do/coronavirus-outbreak-faqs-what-you-can-and-cant-do>

We'd like to thank you for your continuous support in helping your son or daughter learn from home. We'll need to keep going with this for a while yet, so please do continue to do what you can and stay in touch with your son's/daughter's dedicated job coach.

We will be in touch again when we have more information.

Yours faithfully,



Liz Halton  
Head of Forward2Employment