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Dear Parents and Carers,

I trust that you and your family are well at this time. I am writing to you to explain the position of The Compass Learning Centre in relation to the extension of school closures. Currently The Compass Learning Centre remains closed as per current guidance in response to the coronavirus outbreak.

On Sunday 10 May, the Prime Minister briefed the United Kingdom and made it clear that 5 tests need to be met before the lockdown can be lifted:

1. The NHS must be able to cope with hospitalisations
2. There is a 'sustained and consistent' fall in death rate
3. The infection rate decreases to 'manageable levels'
4. The supply of tests and PPE meets future demand
5. Any adjustments do not risk a second peak

We are all used, to hearing about the "R" by now – this is rate of reproduction of the disease. If this moves above 1, the risk of exponential growth rises and the virus will spread rapidly again. There will be further guidance provided by the Department for Education during the coming days and weeks, but for now:

- We remain open for the children of key (critical) workers. If your work situation changes following the latest guidance, please contact the office at office@compass.dorset.sch.uk or your child's Engagement Worker (Stuart, Sue or Tracey) if you need to talk to us about your child being in school.
- At the moment, this is still for key (critical) workers only.
- We remain open for vulnerable children. This includes those with an EHCP or the support of a social worker who cannot safely stay at home. Again, please contact our Engagement Team if you need further support.
- We are closed to all other students until sometime in June at the very earliest.

The Prime Minister has made it clear that Primary Schools will be the first to return with children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 being the first to return. He also indicated that students taking exams next year would be the first to return to the secondary sector. For The Compass Learning Centre, this may mean Year 10 possibly returning for some input before the summer break and but only if all of the evidence is moving in the right direction. We will need to await further guidance from the government about this and I will write formally to you with this when we have it. We are actively supporting our Year 11's with their Post 16 planning too.

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I know that many of you have appreciated the support that we have been able to offer during this time and we will also continue setting work using the range of methods we have developed in order to support your child. We will also continue with welfare phone calls. Please do contact us in order to help us shape our approach – working together is the best way that we can continue to support your children at this time. Additionally we have very much appreciated your support with your children and the home schooling too, challenging as it might be for us all.

Finally, please do make sure to take a few moments to read the official government advice which can be found here <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>.

Please be assured that The Compass Learning Centre is committed to supporting each and every student as best as we can throughout this immediate crisis and beyond.

Yours faithfully,

Alison Glazier

**Alison Glazier,
Head teacher,
The Compass Learning Centre**