



20th March 2020

Dear Parents,

KEY WORKERS

Following our letter to you yesterday, we now have guidance from the Government about what is a “Key Worker” for the Covid-19 emergency.

The guidance can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

The guidance is clear that where it is safe to do so and suitable care is available, then children should stay at home. This is because the Government is seeking to reduce the risk of the virus spreading by significantly reducing the number of children travelling to, and being at, school. The Government is also clear that schools remain safe places for the the number of children who need us to provide childcare.

Please note in particular that the Government has also advised that Parents should not rely for childcare upon those who are advised to be in the stringent social distancing category such as grandparents, friends, or family members with underlying conditions.

The list of roles which could be considered for childcare (if no other acceptable option is available) is below. **PLEASE CONTACT SCHOOL URGENTLY IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO REGISTER YOUR INTEREST FOR CHILDCARE. If you need childcare for Monday, please ensure that we have your interest registered by 11am**

Health and social care

This includes but is not limited to doctors, nurses, midwives, paramedics, social workers, care workers, and other frontline health and social care staff including volunteers; the support and specialist staff required to maintain the UK’s health and social care sector; those working as part of the health and social care supply chain, including producers and distributors of medicines and medical and personal protective equipment.

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Education and childcare

This includes nursery and teaching staff, social workers and those specialist education professionals who must remain active during the COVID-19 response to deliver this approach.

Key public services

This includes those essential to the running of the justice system, religious staff, charities and workers delivering key frontline services, those responsible for the management of the deceased, and journalists and broadcasters who are providing public service broadcasting.

Local and national government

This only includes those administrative occupations essential to the effective delivery of the COVID-19 response or delivering essential public services such as the payment of benefits, including in government agencies and arms length bodies.

Food and other necessary goods

This includes those involved in food production, processing, distribution, sale and delivery as well as those essential to the provision of other key goods (for example hygienic and veterinary medicines).

Public safety and national security

This includes police and support staff, Ministry of Defence civilians, contractor and armed forces personnel (those critical to the delivery of key defence and national security outputs and essential to the response to the COVID-19 pandemic), fire and rescue service employees (including support staff), National Crime Agency staff, those maintaining border security, prison and probation staff and other national security roles, including those overseas.

Transport

This includes those who will keep the air, water, road and rail passenger and freight transport modes operating during the COVID-19 response, including those working on transport systems through which supply chains pass.

Utilities, communication and financial services

This includes staff needed for essential financial services provision (including but not limited to workers in banks, building societies and financial market infrastructure), the oil, gas, electricity and water sectors (including sewerage), information technology and data infrastructure sector and primary industry supplies to continue during the COVID-19 response, as well as key staff working in the civil nuclear, chemicals, telecommunications



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(including but not limited to network operations, field engineering, call centre staff, IT and data infrastructure, 999 and 111 critical services), postal services and delivery, payments providers and waste disposal sectors.

If you think you fall within the categories and would like your child to attend, please contact the school **URGENTLY**. Please note, the childcare may not be at your child's usual school but we will speak to you about this directly once we have more information.

Other children eligible for childcare

Some other children have been identified for childcare at school during this period. These include children who have a social services worker, young carers, disabled students and those with Education, Health and Care Plans. If your child is in one of these should have received a phone call from school asking if you would like childcare. **If you have not received a call and feel your child falls into this group, please contact school URGENTLY.**

The situation is moving very fast and we will get further details out to you as soon as we can.

Please remember, **from Monday school is closed for the vast majority of our children.** Home learning will be available for them (separate information will come to you about this) and school staff have been working tirelessly to provide this. Thank you for your support in this very challenging time, it is greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely

Antony Hughes