



20th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

The government finally published their list of 'Key Workers', whose children will be prioritised for a childcare place at school from Monday. This will be for the normal school day of 8.45am to 3.15pm.

The strong emphasis from the DfE is that we must do all we can to keep the number of children attending school to the minimum. ***Every child who can be safely cared for at home should be.*** In this way all of us, including those of us continuing to work in school, stand a better chance of both staying well ourselves and protecting our own families. The DfE wording states:

- Many parents working in these sectors may be able to ensure their child is kept at home. And every child who can be safely cared for at home should be.
- If you work in one of the critical sectors listed below, and you cannot keep your child safe at home then your children will be prioritised for childcare provision.

Please see the list below, complete the attached form and return it to the school office via email with the word Key Worker in the subject line.

Health and Social Care

- Doctors, nurses, midwives, paramedics, social workers, care workers, volunteers in frontline health and social care
- Support and specialist staff required to maintain health and social care sector
- Those who work in the production and distribution of medicine, medical and personal protective equipment

Education and Child Care

- Nursery and teaching staff
- All those who work in school and education setting
- Specialist education professionals who must remain active to deliver this approach to COVID-19

Key Public Services

- 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
- 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.

Food and Other Necessary Goods

- Those involved in food production, processing, distribution, sale and delivery
- Those involved in the provision of other key goods (e.g. hygienic products and veterinary medicines)

Public and National Security

- Police and police support staff
- Ministry of Defence civilians, contractor and armed forces personnel
- Fire and rescue service employees (including support staff)
- National Crime Agency staff
- Those maintaining border security
- Prison and probation staff
- Other national security roles, including those overseas

Transport

- Those who will keep the air, water, road and rail passenger freight transport modes operating
- Those working on transports systems through which supply chains pass

Utilities, Communication and Financial Services:

- Staff needed for essential financial services provision e.g. workers in banks, building societies, financial market infrastructure
- Staff needed in the oil, gas, electricity and water sectors (including sewerage)
- Staff needed in the information technology and data infrastructure sector
- Key staff working in the civil nuclear, chemicals, telecommunications e.g. 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

It is imperative you complete the attached form fully as we are required to have sufficient information to confirm, if necessary, whether or not your role falls within one of the above categories.

You'll appreciate we need this information with the utmost urgency in order to plan for next week and be sure appropriate staffing is in place. Consequently, we would be grateful if you could return this to the school office as soon as possible, but preferably by 11.00 am this morning.

Once the school has identified which children have been prioritised for a place from Monday, we will contact you to confirm. You will appreciate, this may not be until quite late this afternoon, please be patient and avoid phoning the School Office with queries. Families of children with an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP) or Social Worker will be contacted individually.

We will also be confirming later today what catering and meal options will be available; including for families eligible for Free School Meals.

Thank you for all the kind words of support you have been sharing with our staff in this very difficult time.

Yours faithfully

Mrs Kate Keane
Headteacher