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Dear Parents/ Carers

### **Childcare Provision for Key Workers**

Further to the announcement from the Secretary of State for Education earlier this week I regret that we are to close our school from the end of the day today. These have been incredibly difficult decisions and we do appreciate why the Government has felt it necessary to do so at this time. We will continue to follow ongoing Government advice.

The school will do its utmost to be open to **vulnerable children** such as those who are supported by social care, 'looked after' children, young carers, disabled children and those with [education, health and care \(EHC\) plans](#). Marcus Read, our Assistant Headteacher for Inclusion, is in contact with families of these children. He will be in regular communication with parents/carers of these particular children over the coming weeks.

We will be letting you know the nature of the **Childcare provision** that we will do our best to offer from Monday later today. This childcare provision is only for the **children of Key Workers** as defined by the Government early this morning.

It must be stated that if parents are able to provide childcare for their own children, even if they are on this list, then they should try to do so.

#### **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.

#### **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 (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 parents think they fall within the critical categories above it is essential that you telephone the School by 1pm today to let us know if you require childcare from next week and what days.**

**Once we get this information from you, we can then, this afternoon, consider what we can provide dependent on the number of children and the level of available staff we have. As you know we have ever increasing level of staff unable to work.**

Please apply the following principles:

- 1) If it is at all possible for children to be at home, then they should be. We would urge you to follow government advice and do so.
- 2) 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.
- 3) Parents should also do everything they can to ensure children are not mixing socially in a way which can continue to spread the virus. They should observe the same social distancing principles as adults.

Finally, a huge thank you for all your support at this incredibly difficult time.

Look after yourselves

Will