

20<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

**Re: Confirmation of critical worker status – COVID-19**

Late last night the Government published an updated list of key workers. If you are a parent that works within one of these critical sectors you are entitled to ask schools to provide care for their children.

**Government Guidance for Parents**

Parents whose work is critical to the COVID-19 response include those who work in health and social care and in other key sectors outlined below. 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. Please, therefore, follow these key principles:

1. If it is at all possible for children to be at home, then they should be.
2. If a child needs specialist support, is vulnerable or has a parent who is a critical worker, then educational provision will be available for them.
3. 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.
4. 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.
5. Residential special schools, boarding schools and special settings continue to care for children wherever possible.

We ask that you please complete the following form, which is more comprehensive than the form issued yesterday, indicating whether your child needs a place at school as a result of you being a key worker.

Your continued support and patience are appreciated at this time.

Yours sincerely,



**Helen Cassady**  
Principal