



Ysgol Greenhill School

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PRIFATHRO/HEADMASTER: Mr. R McGovern MA, FInstLM

20th March 2020

Dear Parents/carers

I appreciate that many of you are working and it will be difficult to respond quickly to communications from school but you will shortly receive a questionnaire about Key Worker status which will need to be completed as soon as possible. We are still constructing the questionnaire.

The County Council will continue to provide care for a limited number of children whose parents are classed as 'key workers' however, where possible, every child who can be safely cared for at home should be.

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. This is what the questionnaire will help us to address.

KEY MESSAGES TO CONSIDER WHEN MAKING YOUR DECISION

It is important to underline that schools, colleges and other educational establishments remain safe places for children. But the fewer children making the journey to school, and the fewer children in educational settings, the lower the risk that the virus can spread and infect vulnerable individuals in wider society.

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 the 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. Special settings continue to care for children wherever possible.

If your work is critical to the COVID-19 response, or 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 education provision:



KEY WORKERS

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.

I would urge any parents who are listed as 'key workers' to complete the questionnaire as soon as possible. If you are unable to do this please contact the school as soon as possible and ask to speak to the Pastoral Secretary, Mrs. Rees and provide her with your Key Worker details. Please note, that the provision will be established as a child care provider not a learning organisation. I cannot stress the importance of the clear message given by Government that where possible, every child who can be safely cared for at home should be.

I would like to thank everyone for your support, cooperation and understanding in what is a very challenging situation for everyone. Throughout this week and previous to this, we, as a school have worked tirelessly to maintain a positive learning environment for all our pupils.

Yours sincerely



Mr Raymond McGovern, MA. FInstLM.
Headmaster/Prifathro

