

Dear Parent/Carer

Further to the email sent yesterday, we have now received guidance from the Government regarding which students should still be allowed to attend school. Therefore, we need to request further information from parents/carers.

The full guidance from the Government can be viewed by following the link <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

In summary, the website states:

“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.

Schools are, therefore, being asked to continue to provide care for a limited number of children - children who are vulnerable and children whose parents are critical to the Covid-19 response and cannot be safely cared for at home.”

The areas listed as being ‘critical sectors’ are as follows:

Health and Social Care

Frontline health and social care staff such as doctors, nurses, midwives, paramedics, as well as support and specialist staff in the health and social care sector. In addition it includes those working in supply chains including producers and distributors of medicines and personal protective equipment.

Education and childcare

Nursery, teaching staff and social workers.

Key public services

Those required to run the justice system, religious staff, as well as those responsible for managing the deceased, and journalists providing public service broadcasting.

Local and national government

Administrative occupations essential to the effective delivery of the Covid-19 response or delivering essential public services, including payment of benefits.

Food and other necessary goods

Those involved in the production, processing, distribution, sale and delivery of food.

Public safety and national security

Police, support staff, Ministry of Defence civilian staff and armed forces personnel, fire and rescue staff, and those responsible for border security, prisons and probation.

Transport

Those who will keep air, water, road and rail passenger and freight transport modes operating during the Covid-19 response.

Utilities, communication and financial services

Staff required to keep oil, gas, electricity, water and sewerage operations running. This relates to those employed by the utilities companies who are responsible for the national infrastructure. Staff in the civil nuclear, chemical and telecommunications sectors. Those in postal services and those working to provide essential financial services.

A child will be prioritised for educational provision at school if they meet the following criteria:

- The primary carer works in one of the areas listed above and no other childcare arrangement can be made for them i.e. in the case that there is another parent/carer who does not work in one of these sectors, it will be their responsibility to make arrangements to care for the child. **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.**
- A child is considered vulnerable. Vulnerable children include those who are supported by social care, those with safeguarding and welfare needs, including child in need plans, on child protection plans, 'looked after' children, young carers, disabled children and those with education, health and care (EHC) plans.

In order for the school to plan for students who will need to attend school we are requesting that you complete the form which can be found in the 'forms' section of parentmail by **2pm today** if your child meets the criteria above. You only need to complete the form if you require your child to attend school.

If you are a Key Worker and your child does not need to attend school, it is not necessary for you to complete this form e.g. your child may be old enough to safely stay at home or you are able to make alternative arrangements.

We apologise that you have already been asked to complete a similar form, but due to the guidance from Government changing, many parents'/carers' situations may have changed. If you have already completed the previous form and this new information hasn't affected your circumstances, you do not need to complete this additional form, we will use the information provided previously.

Thank you for your prompt response and your continued support at this very difficult time.

Mr A B Green
Principal