

Headteacher: Miss Caitlin Macrae

Our reference MCE/krr

20th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Re: Coronavirus update – Students of key workers – Friday 20th March 9.30am

As you know, the school is closing to most students at the end of the day today until further notice. The government has now published further guidance for schools, parents and carers about which workers are classed as key workers. Please see below for this guidance. It is the children of these workers that schools will continue to have in school, where required and possible, from Monday 23rd March.

As part of the efforts to limit the spread of the Coronavirus, Covid 19, the government is asking all parents and carers to keep children at home, wherever possible. The government is asking schools to remain open only for those **children who absolutely need to attend**.

To be clear, if you are a key worker, you are not required to send your child to school if you do not wish to. In fact, I would urge these parents and carers to only send your child in if absolutely necessary, given the limited staffing we currently have in school. Depending on the number of requests, we may need to prioritise students with specific needs and students in the younger year groups.

Please be aware that, if government guidance changes or if staffing levels become critical, we may need to completely close the school. If this becomes the case, we will work with the local authority to find an alternative provision for those students who are attending.

If you are a key worker, please complete the survey at the following link to let us know your requirements, by 1pm today:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/KeyWorkerSurveyMarch2020>.

I apologise for the short timescale, but as I am sure you will understand, we have very little time to ensure that we have resources and staffing in place for Monday.

If we are able to offer your child a place, please note the following:

- When in school, students will be working on the work set through Show My Homework
- Students will be supervised by a small team of staff which will vary from day to day
- The timings of the school day will be as usual, starting at 8.20am, finishing at 2.55pm, with break and lunch at the usual times where possible
- Students will be expected to attend in usual school uniform and follow our Expectations of Conduct at all times

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Further information for parents and carers can be found at the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers>

Thank you for your ongoing support of the school.

Kind regards

Miss Caitlin Macrae
Headteacher

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The following is an extract from <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

'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.

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.



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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'

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