

Friday 8th January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,



Further to the announcement by the Government Monday evening (4th January 2021) I write to remind you of the importance of following the lockdown rules (see link to Government website below) in order to protect everyone and keep everyone safe. Now more than ever with the new variant of the infection, transmission rates are greater and therefore it is essential that we all work together to protect everyone so we can continue to offer the provision for those children who need to be in school and remote live lessons to those children at home.

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/949536/NationalLockdownGuidance.pdf

Do you still need the place – is your job ‘critical’ to support the COVID-19 recovery?

Now that new lockdown restrictions are in place you may find that your working circumstances have changed and you or your partner are now at home or working from home and if this is the case under the Government guidelines **we ask that you, where at all possible, keep your children at home** so we can reduce the risks for our children and staff and hence help to reduce any possible transmission of the virus. We may ask for proof of your employment and job role and evidence of shift patterns when considering eligibility for having the children in school. We understand that this is yet another testing time for us all but by working together we can ensure everyone’s safety.

Please find attached to this letter the criteria for critical workers.

Should you have any questions, concerns or queries then please do not hesitate to contact us. Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely
Mr M Shotton and Mrs M Saunders
Executive Headteachers



Critical workers

Parents whose work is critical to the coronavirus (COVID-19) and EU transition response include those who work in health and social care and in other key sectors outlined in the following sections. Children with at least one parent or carer who is a critical worker can go to school or college if required.

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:

- childcare
- support and teaching staff
- social workers
- specialist education professionals who must remain active during the coronavirus (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
- 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 coronavirus (COVID-19) response, and the delivery of and response to EU transition
- essential public services, such as the payment of benefits and the certification or checking of goods for import and export (including animal products, animals, plants and food), 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 coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak and EU transition)
- 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 and border

This includes those who will keep the air, water, road and rail passenger and freight transport modes operating during the coronavirus (COVID-19) response and EU transition, including those working on transport systems through which supply chains pass and those constructing or supporting the operation of critical transport and border infrastructure 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 coronavirus (COVID-19) response
- 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
- waste disposal sectors

