



Friday 20th March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are now able to provide further clarification on schools providing emergency provision for children of critical workers and for vulnerable children.

The key principle is:

If it is at all possible for children to be at home, then they should be.

This is to ensure the safety of your children and your families and is critical to limit the spread of COVID-19. Only children for whom it is critical that they return to school on Monday should do so. For instance, if one parent is a critical worker, but the other is not then it would be reasonable to assume that the child could be safely looked after at home and there is no expectation that children of critical workers or vulnerable children have to attend school. (It does not affect attendance as these are exceptional times). It is not a statutory requirement for schools to remain open – they have been asked to open as part of a national response. It will be a different type of provision than schools usually provide for pupils: **it will be about care, not education.**

The Government has explained that priority is to be given to critical workers in the following sectors:

- Health and social care
- Education and child care
- Key public services
- Local and National Government
- Food distribution and other necessary goods
- Public safety and National security
- Transport – key air, water, road, rail networks
- Utilities, communication and financial services

They also state about providing care to vulnerable children who are defined as:

- Children with a social worker with a child in need or child protection plan
- Children with an EHCP (education, health and care plan)

If you feel you meet the criteria and have no other alternative care, please come to the school reception with evidence of your critical worker role to register your



child. The office will be open at 3.00pm – 4.30pm today (Friday 20th March) and from 9.30am – 11.00am tomorrow (Saturday 21st March). It is vital that you register your child at these times so we can assess whether your child is eligible for a place. Then we can arrange suitable staffing as we also have a duty of care to our staff and their families at this time. There will be no other opportunity to do this and it will be highly unlikely that we can offer you a place if you do not register at these times. **The deadline is 11am on Saturday 21st March.** If you are eligible, we will make further contact with you regarding arrangements for Monday.

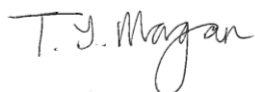
Please note that if you do not register or are not eligible and then send your child to school on Monday as normal, you will be required to collect them immediately to take them home again.

The Government are anticipating 10% of children will meet these criteria so we are expecting approximately 20 pupils across the school. Please remember the Government guidance states:

‘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.’

During this challenging time, please be assured we will do our best to support our families with our limited resources. We would like to thank so many of you who have shown your support to the school this week and wish the whole school community the very best during the isolation period. We look forward to welcoming you all back as soon as we can.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. J. Morgan'.

Mrs Tracy Morgan