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A member of the Central Co-operative Learning Trust



Headteacher: Elaine Curtis

Deputy Headteacher: Matt Runacus

20th March 2020

Dear Parents/carers,

Support for key workers

Our school is committed to supporting those working in the **critical** services that keep the country running in this difficult time. If you are a **critical** key worker, the government has asked schools to stay open for your children. However, it is also important to note the latest government advice:

- 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.
- The most recent scientific advice on how to further limit the spread of COVID-19 is clear. **If children can stay safely at home, they should, to limit the chance of the virus spreading.**
- The government has asked parents to keep their children at home, wherever possible, and
- Schools to remain open only for those children who **absolutely need to attend.**

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

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 or elsewhere** then your children will be prioritised for education provision:

- Health and social care
- Education and childcare
- Key public services
- Local and national government
- Food and other **necessary** goods
- Public safety and national security
- Transport
- Utilities, communication and financial services

If you think you fall within the **critical** categories above you should confirm with your employer that, based on their business continuity arrangements, your **specific role** is necessary for the continuation of this essential public service. **We may require confirmation of this.**

If we do not have enough staff, who are well enough, we will not be able to keep the school open during the most critical phase of what we now know is likely to be a long drawn out battle with Coronavirus. Therefore, we may have to prioritise applications.

We will be sending a form for you to complete and a member of staff will then be in contact to confirm if your child is eligible to attend school next week.

Finally, the government have made it clear that whilst schools will be providing a caring and safe environment for pupils it will not be learning in the normal sense. Children will not be taught lessons by their normal teachers.

Please help us to support and **prioritise the most essential workers**. We are grateful for your support with this.

Yours sincerely,
Mrs Curtis

