



Ansley Common, Nuneaton, CV10 0PY (02476) 392318

Head of School – Ms J Clarke

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

You will have seen the message from the Prime Minister last night, that schools in the country will close to most families, until the February half-term. We know that many of you are asking for information on what that means for your children and how they will receive their education. We are now in a position to give some clarity as to how we will move forward.

Current government guidance regarding eligibility for the school care as of Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January (at Nursery Hill), is that children with at least one parent or carer who are identified as critical workers by the government or are vulnerable children, can potentially send their children to school if required. The government's definition of a 'key worker' or 'critical worker' is extensive. Please find more information on the government website, on the below link:

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

#### **Vulnerable children and young people**

Vulnerable children and young people include those who:-

- are assessed as being in need under section 17 of the Children Act 1989, including children and young people who -
- have a child in need plan, a child protection plan or who are a looked-after child
- have an education, health and care (EHC) plan
- have been identified as otherwise vulnerable by educational providers or local authorities (including children's social care services), and who could therefore benefit from continued full-time attendance, this might include: children and young people on the edge of receiving support from children's social care services or in the process of being referred to children's services
- adopted children or children on a special guardianship order
- those at risk of becoming NEET ('not in employment, education or training')
- those living in temporary accommodation
- those who are young carers
- those who may have difficulty engaging with remote education at home (for example due to a lack of devices or quiet space to study)
- care leavers
- others at the provider and local authority's discretion including pupils and students who need to attend to receive support or manage risks to their mental health

#### **Critical Workers**

If your work is critical to the COVID-19 and EU transition response, includes those who work in health and social care and in other key sectors outlined in the following sections. Children with one parent or carer who is a critical worker, can attend school.

### **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 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 and the delivery of and response to EU transition, or delivering 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 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 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 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.

### **Message for Key Workers: Confirm with Employers**

If workers think they fall within the critical categories above they should confirm with their employer that, based on their business continuity arrangements, their specific role is necessary for the continuation of this essential public service.

However, we must emphasise that the government guidance also states that “many parents working in these critical sectors may be able to ensure their child is kept at home. **Every child who can be safely cared for at home should be.**” The provision that will be provided is a childcare service and not an educational service.

We appreciate the disruption that this will cause you. However, everyone has a role to play in stopping the spread of the Coronavirus, and the new variant of this virus.

Every day, data will be collected in the morning so that we have a very clear picture of who is in school and, if any child is not attending that should be, we need to know where they are. That is obviously a critical piece of work if we are to safely track some of our most vulnerable children. That will be our starting point.

We are asking **parents to complete the form** below to give us information about your situation and why you require school based childcare. If you are a critical worker, we will be asking you to provide **evidence** to confirm that your role is covered by the government guidance. We may also need to get in touch with you via telephone to gain some extra clarification.

If you become unwell with coronavirus symptoms, you must **immediately** contact school and arrange collection of your child. School must be informed if you no longer fall in the critical worker list or you have been asked to self-isolate. Please note that we request that children must have thorough handwashing upon entering and exiting school.

We understand how this will affect the children and you, as families, and while we empathise, we have to be firm in the application of government guidelines if we are to keep your children safe and help stop the spread of Coronavirus. Your essential co-operation is appreciated.

Please submit the completed form below, if applicable, leaving it in the plastic curver box (in the foyer) by **12 noon Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2021.**

Kind regards

Ms J Clarke



Nursery Hill  
Primary

## KEY WORKERS/CRITICAL WORKERS/VULNERABLE CHILDREN FORM

Please **only** fill in this section if you think you may be eligible for childcare as of Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

Child's name	(if more than one child, please include both)	
Class		
Please tick if these apply to your child		
My child has an EHCP <input type="checkbox"/>	My child has a social worker <input type="checkbox"/>	My child is a looked after child <input type="checkbox"/>

	Parent 1	Parent 2
Name		
Job Role		
Company		
Mobile Phone		
If only one parent is a key worker/critical worker, please give explicit reasons as to why we may need to consider offering school based childcare (please continue overleaf if necessary).		

If you have not ticked any of the boxes above but believe your child is considered vulnerable, please provide more information here (please continue overleaf if necessary).	
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Please attach relevant evidence to show that you are a key worker/critical worker or have a vulnerable child.