

Parents and carers who carry out roles critical to the COVID-19 response

This morning the Government published the list of roles it considers critical to the COVID-19 response. This means that we are now in a position to ask parents and carers whether they work in one of those sectors and whether they plan to send their children to school after schools officially close today, Friday 20th March 2020. As a school we are committed to doing all we can to stop the spread of COVID-19 and we will make sure that those working in crucial roles are not forced to stop working because they need to be at home with their children.

Our commitment is to honour the Government's objective to provide schooling for students of key workers, however, we ask that parents carefully consider whether it is possible for students to remain at home as there will be only a skeleton staff at school and, although we will take every precaution to prevent it, infection is more likely at school than at home. The Government's guidance states:

"If children can stay safely at home, they should, to limit the chance of the virus spreading.

That is why the government has asked parents to keep their children at home, wherever possible, and asked schools to remain open only for those children who absolutely need to attend. It is important to underline that schools, colleges and other educational establishments remain safe places for children. But 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 nature of the educational provision at school from Monday 20th March 2020

School will run from 9am-3pm each day although students may arrive a little earlier and leave a little later if necessary. Although we do not yet know the number of students attending school each day we are likely to supervise students in computer rooms whilst they complete the work which is being set for all students on Google Classroom. The canteen will be available at lunch as will outside play areas at break and lunchtime.

What to do if you carry out one of these roles and you wish your child to attend school following school closure on Friday 20th March

Please click this [Google survey](#) and you can submit you and your child's details.

Is my role critical to the COVID-19 response?

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.

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.