

20 March 2020

Dear Parents / Carers

Further to our recent communication with you about our response to the COVID-19 crisis we have now had details from the government about who are key workers.

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.

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.

Schools are, therefore, being asked to continue to provide care for a limited number of children - children who are vulnerable and children whose parents are key workers and cannot be safely cared for at home.

Unless your child is deemed to be vulnerable or you are a key worker your child will **not** be at school from Monday. This is in order to keep them safe and for schools to deliver what is expected of us.

Therefore, we have asked all parents to complete an [online form](#) to indicate if they must accept the offer of childcare from our schools. To enable us to ensure correct staffing the form needs to be completed by midday on Sunday 22 March. There is no need to complete the form if you have already done so.

Parents who are key workers will be asked to provide evidence of their roles before their children come into school on Monday. Details of the provision they require will also be requested. Individual communication will be sent to parents to confirm provision.

Those eligible for free school meals who are not attending school will be able to pick up a packed lunch from the school reception between 11.30am and 12.30pm. However, as many parents live a long distance from school we are also in the process of trying to source vouchers so parents can purchase food locally.

For more information regarding school closures please see: [The Department for Education's Guidance on Closure of Educational Settings](#)

Thank you for your continued support during this difficult time.

Daniel Thrower
CEO