

# TODDINGTON ST. GEORGE CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL

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20<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Morning everyone!

We have received new guidance today on school closures and Key worker groups.

**This does not affect you** if you have **already** told us you are a key worker or in a vulnerable group and have already returned your form.

**This new information may affect you** if you were keeping your child at home when we shut for the majority tonight.

Please remember: 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**.

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.

***I need to advise you to be aware that all schools will try to remain open but, as time goes on, with variations in numbers of children and staff (and the ongoing health issues we may be dealing with in school) children may need to attend other schools and or have different teachers and staff teach them. This is not imminent.***

Schools will aim to provide places for a limited number of children who are vulnerable and Key worker children whose parents are critical to the Covid-19 response and cannot be safely cared for at home. **See the new list attached below**

Vulnerable children include

- children who are supported by social care
- those with safeguarding and welfare needs, including child in need plans, on child protection plans
- 'looked after' children
- young carers
- disabled children
- and those with [education, health and care \(EHC\) plans](#).

Please, therefore, follow these key principles:

- **If it is at all possible for children to be at home, then they should be.**
- If a child is vulnerable or has a parent who is a critical worker, then educational provision will be available for them
- Parents should not rely for childcare upon those who are advised to be in the stringent social distancing category such as grandparents, friends, or family members with underlying conditions.
- Parents should also do everything they can to ensure children are not mixing socially in a way which can continue to spread the virus. They should observe the same social distancing principles as adults.

**If you think your work falls into these new categories and CANNOT keep your children at home, wherever possible, please return the form below and also contact school immediately as we need to review numbers for Monday morning. (Only do this if you have not already sent a form back by 11.30 Friday morning).**

We will send further information regarding the plans for Monday later.

Many thanks for all your help to date,

Jane Spencer  
Headteacher

## Government advice: New Key worker categories information @ 20.3.20

### **Health**

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**

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.

**Justice and community** 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 arm's 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.

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.**

**KWVG Form to be returned to school asap please**

**Childs Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Class** \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Carers name address and contact numbers

1 \_\_\_\_\_

2 \_\_\_\_\_

If a Key Worker- Occupation of key worker(s)

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Social worker if you have one \_\_\_\_\_

As Toddington Child Care may be closed can you organise wrap around care from  
8-8.55 and 3.30-6pm?

\_\_\_\_\_

If not do you have plans for these times currently? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Do you want your child to come into school and be attending school in a small group such  
as this or are you keen to have a learning pack and have your child at home?

You do not have to send your child into school if you do not wish to. This is an entitlement  
so your child can be looked after, but it is not a requirement if you can do your job/ensure  
your child's well-being your child can be with you /cared for at home.

**\*I do / I do not want my child to come into school when school is closed for the  
other children**

**Signed** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_