



Danbury Park Community Primary School

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Deputy Headteacher: Miss D Johnston BA

20th March 2020

Dear Parent,

Following the government announcement that schools are closing for the purposes of their normal function as of the end of school today, we have now received more information about how schools are expected to support the community over the coming weeks. We are opening from Monday, for the time being, to support our vulnerable children and those of key workers. The government guidance states:

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.

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.

*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 critical to the Covid-19 response and cannot be safely cared for at home.*

- 1. If it is at all possible for children to be at home, then they should be.***
- 2. If a child needs specialist support, is vulnerable or has a parent who is a critical worker, then educational provision will be available for them.*
- 3. 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.*
- 4. 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 your work is critical to the COVID-19 response, or you work in one of the critical sectors as listed below and you **cannot keep your child safe at home** then your children will be prioritised for education provision:*

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.

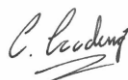
Utilities, communication and financial services

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.

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.

If you are a key worker, cannot keep your child safe at home and have no alternative for childcare, please complete the form below and bring this in with your child on Monday morning. If you are unsure, please contact the school office and we will advise according to our understanding of the guidance at the time. Children can attend in non-uniform. They will need their PE kit, water bottles and packed lunch. There will be a limited school meal provision, should you require it.

Yours sincerely,



Carol Gooding
Headteacher



Keyworker School Provision

Please complete the short form below to let us know if your child needs access to our Key Worker School Provision.

Pupil Name..... Class.....

Parent Name.....

Key worker role and brief explanation of this role:

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Emergency Contact number 1.....

Emergency Contact number 2.....

Email Contact address:.....

Any Medical/Allergy Issues/Needs:

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Any other important information we should know:

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Signed.....

Date.....

