

Whitewater C. of E. Primary School
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Whitewater Vision

Developing values and skills of the Christian faith
Including everyone
Nurturing everyone's talents
Life long learning

20th March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Maintaining Educational Provision for Pupils of Key Workers and Vulnerable Pupils

In the early hours of this morning, the government issued updated guidance on provision for children whose parents/carers are key workers and those who may be vulnerable.

In this guidance, **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**. They state, it is important that schools remain safe places for children. With fewer children in educational settings it lowers the risk that the virus (COVID-19) can spread and infect vulnerable individuals in wider society.

Whitewater Church of England Primary School will therefore be continuing 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’.

Vulnerable Children

Vulnerable children are those who are supported by social care, those with safeguarding needs, ‘looked after’ children and those with Education Health Care Plans (EHCP). We will be sending an individual ParentMail to you today if your child is in this category. You do not need to do anything until you receive this message.

Key Workers

In the government information, the critical sectors listed as key workers are as follows:

- Health and social care
- Education and childcare
- Key public services (eg justice system, religious staff, journalists)
- Local and national government
- Food and other necessary goods (eg involvement in food production, processing and veterinary medicine)
- Public safety and national security (eg, police, armed forces personnel, fire and rescue)
- Transport (eg those who keep air, water, road rail and freight transport systems functioning)
- Utilities, communication and financial services, including postal workers, 999 and 111 critical services.



What to do next

If you think that:

- You fall within the critical categories **and**
- Your specific role is necessary for the continuation of essential public service **and**
- You do not have an adult in your household who can provide care for your child.

Then,

Please could you email us [subject heading **KEY WORKER**] with:

- Your name
- An attached photo of your work ID badge or equivalent proof of occupation
- Your child's name and class

PLEASE try to provide school with this information by 3.30 pm today. We will be in touch with parents who meet this criteria once we have a complete list.

The following government information is available to parents:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers>

Although school will be open, it will be operating in a very different way with a skeleton staff. The children who come into school will be in a mixed age and class group setting.

We understand that this is a very unsettling time for all parents but please be assured that we are working hard to respond to information as and when received. Thank you for your ongoing support and patience.

Kind regards.

L Edwards

Miss Edwards
Headteacher

I Carruthers

Mr Carruthers
Chair of Governors

