



St Mark's C.E. Primary School

Loving to learn, Learning to Love.

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Dear Parents and Carers,

As you know, 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.

The government has also announced that schools will remain open for children of those people who fall into the 'key worker' categories. The government has said that **"many parents working in these sectors may be able to ensure their child is kept at home"**, and that **"every child who can be safely cared for at home should be."**

The key worker groups are listed below:

Key workers:

Health and social care

- **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

- **Nursery and teaching staff, social workers** and those **specialist education professionals**.

Key public services

- **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

- **Administrative occupations** essential to the effective delivery of the COVID-19 response or delivering essential public services such as the payment of benefits.

Food and other necessary goods

- **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

- **Police and support staff, Ministry of Defence civilians, contractor and armed forces personnel, 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**.

Transport

- This includes **those who will keep the air, water, road and rail passenger and freight transport modes operating**.

Utilities, communication and financial services

- **Staff needed for essential financial services provision** (including **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 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**

For further detailed guidance, please refer to:

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

If you feel that you are a key worker as listed above and whilst at work have no one to look after your child at home, please contact the school office between 9am and 3pm to see if your child is eligible to come to school.

School hours will remain the same.

Thank you for your cooperation at this difficult time.

Mrs M Johnstone

Executive Headteacher



