



Provision for Children of Key Workers

20th March 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian

We have received some clarification on the position of schools on Monday.

The first thing I would say is that the ultimate aim remains to keep the number of children in school to an absolute minimum. We have been asked to facilitate pupils in school whose parents are critical to the Covid-19 team who would have otherwise no option but to stay at home.

Therefore, this would apply to **sole parents** and families where **both parents** are key workers. The following headings have been provided, but more detail will follow here in the coming days.

- Health and Social Care: doctors, nurses, midwives, paramedics, social workers and home carers.
- Education and Childcare: education professionals who remain active during Covid-19 response.
- Public Safety and National Security: police, fire and rescue, prison.
- Those keeping air, water, road and rail transport modes operating.
- Utilities: staff needed for oil, gas, electricity and water and key staff in telecommunications, post and waste disposal.
- Food production and processing and those essential to the provision of key goods (e.g. hygiene, medical).
- Key national and local government.

If you are in the above category as a sole parent or both parents, we would ask you to ring school today before 5pm and speak to myself or Mrs Black directly, not by email. Please do not present your child at school if you have not contacted us in advance.

If you work part-time we would state that pupils are only to be in on working days. Supervision will only be provided for the time of your child's normal school day as Stay and Play will not be operating.

As you know we are a large school and already working with a depleted staff. Parents must only use this provision if absolutely necessary. We will have a skeleton staff working in school from Monday.

When in school the pupils will be in composite year group classes and facilitated in the completion of activities in their home reading packs. No additional class teaching will be taking place. Lunch at this point will be via packed lunch only.

Despite our efforts to ensure social distancing, you will appreciate we cannot guarantee a 'socially distant' environment as we are working with young children.

Please note our present understanding of "vulnerable pupils" is unclear and we await further clarification from the minister.

Once again, can I appeal to all parents to explore all other avenues before deciding to contact school, in the interests of the health and safety of our staff.

Thank you as always for your support in these difficult times.

Regards

S Spillane

Principal