

Friday 20 March 2020

Dear parents and carers,

COVID-19 - school closures across England

The UK government has chosen to close schools in England from Monday 23rd March until further notice. The government has been very clear that “every child who can be safely cared for at home should be.”

Schools will be open only to the following groups (and who cannot be safely cared for at home and are not displaying symptoms of Corona Virus):

- Children with an Education, Health and Care Plan
- Children who have an assigned social worker, a child protection plan, a child in need plan, disabled children, those who are 'looked after' and those who are young carers
- Children of key workers

The list of who is a key worker is on the next page. If you are a key worker and your child(ren) cannot be safely cared for at home and is not displaying symptoms of Corona Virus your child is welcome to attend school. Please ask for a school place by following this link and completing the short form. (Please note - if you have already requested a place by other means, you do not need to fill this in again.)

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=ViObpySMIkm0IMbibQtAkUAx1gvC1VpFuh9EdzuPBJ1UM05aOVZMVkJLMVc5NIUwT0M5NTIMV0dNWS4u>

If you can't follow the link, please call the school office on 0117 377 3085.

The government has requested that all UK citizens do the following:

1. Work and learn from home where possible
2. Practice social distancing, avoiding unnecessary social contact
3. Practice good hygiene, washing hands regularly and avoiding touching your face
4. Self-isolate the whole household for 14 days if you or a household member becomes ill with symptoms including a cough or a temperature
5. Self-isolate for a period of approximately 12 weeks if you are over 70, have an underlying health condition, or if you are pregnant.

Please do these things. It will help to stop the spread of Coronavirus.

Please turn over

If you have any questions, you should contact the school on 0117 377 3085 or email info@evergreenprimary.academy

We may need to call you while the school is closed. It is vital that we have up to date telephone numbers and addresses for you. Please tell us if we need to update your information. Links to the school website and the Department of Education helpline are provided below.

Thank you for your continued support of your child and of our school during this unusual time.

Yours faithfully,

V Counsell
Principal

The department for Education helpline to answer questions about COVID 19 related to education. Staff, parents and young people can contact the helpline as follows:

- Phone 0800 046 8687 - Email DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk
- Opening hours 8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday)

The Academy website has a page dedicated to providing access to Public Health England advice, this is updated daily. <https://www.clf.uk/coronavirus-advice/>

The guidance from the UK Government on which roles are key workers was updated on 20th March 2020:

Parents whose work is critical to the COVID-19 response include those who work in health and social care and in other key sectors outlined below. Many parents working in these sectors may be able to ensure their child is kept at home. And every child who can be safely cared for at home should be.

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.

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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 ser