



20th March 2020

Key Workers

Dear Parents and Carers,

In my letter yesterday I wrote about school being open to children of Key Workers.

Early this morning, the Department for Education released guidance outlining which families would qualify for access to this facility. This facility will run through the Easter Holidays.

If either parent falls in to one of the categories below and you would need to use Plaistow and Kirdford as a childcare facility please **contact us as soon as possible**.

Please email the school office: office@plaistowkirdford.com

Use the subject line: Key Worker

Please indicate if you would make use of our facility. Which category of key worker would apply to you. Where appropriate specify days.

We will be operating usual school hours 8.45am to 3.30pm.

We believe the school buses will still be operating but will have more clarity about this later on.

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 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.

Other

Some families may qualify for access based on the support a child receives or if their family benefits from additional, external support. If you feel this may apply to your family please contact us.

This has been a continually developing situation over the past 24 hours. While we do have a staffing plan for this time it relies heavily on knowing who is going to access the service we will be providing and when.

If you are unable to email us today, please telephone.

If you are uncertain, please contact us and we will give the best advice we can.

A guide for parents has been produced by the Department for Education and can be accessed here:

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

Yours sincerely,



Mr King

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