



Ark Evelyn Grace Academy

Monday 18th May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you and your families are managing to stay well.

Previously we have sent information about our Community Classroom which enables the children of key workers and those who are vulnerable to come into school when necessary. We know that key worker's timetables/shifts change so we want to make sure we are giving you the opportunity for this access over the next week. This is a fast-changing situation, so we will ask parents on a weekly basis to re-confirm that you want to send your child into school for our 'Community Classrooms.'

If your child falls into these categories and you intend to send your child to school in the week starting **Tuesday 26th May**, you must let Miss Laidley know on candice.laidley@evelyngraceacademy.org as soon as possible and by **Thursday 21st May 2020** at the latest so we can plan the number of staff who will be required to be in school. Please note that the school will not be open on Bank Holiday Monday (25th May). It is crucial that you let us know as we cannot guarantee places unless you confirm to us that you will need one.

We all have our part to play in helping to control the virus. This means we must follow the government advice to stay at home as much as possible, work from home if you can and limit contact with other people.

A reminder of the details for children who can be sent to school;

1. **Children who are vulnerable:** Full details of which children are covered are set out below.
2. **Children whose parents are key workers and who meet ALL the following conditions:**
 - The parent must be in a critical role based on government advice - full details of these critical roles are below; **and**
 - The parent must have had confirmation from their employer that their specific role is necessary for the continuation of essential public service; **and**
 - Their child **cannot** otherwise be cared for safely at home.

While schools are closed, we should all continue to follow health guidance. Find out how to protect yourself here:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

For further information on the government response, please visit:

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

Thank you to everyone for your understanding during these challenging times and a heartfelt thanks to our NHS and key workers who are working so hard to help us all.

Kind regards

Tim Dainty
Principal

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Government Guidance on Vulnerable Children

During the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak, for the purposes of continued attendance at educational settings, vulnerable children and young people are defined as those who:

- are assessed as being in need under section 17 of the Children Act 1989, including children who have a child in need plan, a child protection plan or who are a looked-after child
- have an [education, health and care \(EHC\) plans](#) and it is determined, following risk assessment, that their needs can be as safely or more safely met in the educational environment
- have been assessed as otherwise vulnerable by educational providers or local authorities (including children's social care services), and who are therefore in need of continued education provision - this might include children on the edge of receiving support from children's social care services, adopted children, those at risk of becoming NEET ('not in employment, education or training'), those who are young carers and others at the provider and local authority's discretion

Government Guidance on Key Workers

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:

- childcare
- support and teaching staff
- social workers
- 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
- 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
- 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
- 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

USEFUL LINKS FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Universal Credit

<https://www.gov.uk/universal-credit>

Employment & Support Allowance

<https://www.gov.uk/employment-support-allowance>

Covid-19 Small Business Government Grant

<https://smallbusiness.co.uk/how-do-i-get-the-government-3000-coronavirus-grant-2549866/>

Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan

<https://smallbusiness.co.uk/how-do-i-apply-for-a-coronavirus-business-interruption-loan-2549863/>

Citizen's Advice

<https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/benefits/help-if-on-a-low-income/if-youre-struggling-with-living-costs/>

Emergency Funding

<https://www.stepchange.org/debt-info/emergency-funding.aspx>