



**Hill Top Primary Academy**  
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Good morning Parents/Carers,

The much-awaited list of Key Workers has now been produced along with some very sound guidance.

The whole idea behind school closures is to **isolate** as many adults and children as possible so as to **stop the spread of a very dangerous virus**. Because it is so virulent children and parents need to be in isolation.

Teachers and Teaching Assistants are classed as Key Workers and are therefore putting themselves on the front line so that other Key Workers can continue to carry out all the services that the majority of families are going to require i.e. hospitals, police, food deliveries etc. **In order to protect them and their children we must only have children in school where both Parents are Key Workers and on the front line.** You need to consider whether school is the safest place for your children; surely home is. We are doing everything we can, however, we would like you to take note of the following:

- We do not have antibacterial hand wash, but, we do have soap and water.
- Children that should be attending school will be going home to Parents on the front line who potentially have been in contact with very sick people and then their children will be coming back the following day.
- Children will be sat the required distance from each other and they will be working on the work set by teachers. At break and lunchtimes the children will go out but we will be encouraging them to stay a safe distance from each other.
- These are very scary times there is no doubt about it but until we get through to the other side I **need to protect the children that have** to come to school because there is no-one else to look after them or because those children are our most vulnerable.

Below is a copy of the document the Government have issued, in its entirety. Please read it carefully and **seriously consider whether you are a critical key worker** to the Covid-19 response and that you can't care for your children at home.

If you fall into one of the categories above and you are genuinely unable to care for your children at home please **phone school between the hours of 1 – 4pm** today so that we can compile a list of children who will be in school on Monday so that I can ensure I have staff coverage.

We will need to know the following:

- your employers and a contact number for them
- whether your child normally has school dinners
- whether your child needs to be in full time 8.45 to 3.10pm every day or whether this may only be when you are required to work (Shifts etc.)

Regards  
Karen Hyams  
Principal



### **Gov.uk document**

As a country, we all need to do what we can to reduce the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

That is why the government has given clear guidance on [self-isolation](#), [household isolation](#) and [social distancing](#).

And 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.**

It is important to underline that schools, colleges and other educational establishments remain safe places for children. But the fewer children making the journey to school, and the fewer children in educational settings, the lower the risk that the virus can spread and infect vulnerable individuals in wider society.

**Schools are, therefore, being asked to continue to provide care for a limited number of children - children who are vulnerable and children whose parents are critical to the Covid-19 response and cannot be safely cared for at home.**

Vulnerable children include children who are supported by social care, those with safeguarding and welfare needs, including child in need plans, on child protection plans, 'looked after' children, young carers, disabled children and those with [education, health and care \(EHC\) plans](#).

We know that schools will also want to support other children facing social difficulties and we will support head teachers to do so.

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.

Please, therefore, follow these key principles:

1. If it is at all possible for children to be at home, then they should be.
2. If a child needs specialist support, is vulnerable or has a parent who is a critical worker, then educational provision will be available for them.
3. Parents should not rely for childcare upon those who are advised to be in the stringent social distancing category such as grandparents, friends, or family members with underlying conditions.
4. Parents should also do everything they can to ensure children are not mixing socially in a way which can continue to spread the virus. They should observe the same social distancing principles as adults.
5. Residential special schools, boarding schools and special settings continue to care for children wherever possible.

If your work is critical to the COVID-19 response, or you work in one of the critical sectors listed below, and you cannot keep your child safe at home then your children will be prioritised for education provision:

### **Health and social care**



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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 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 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.

If your school is closed then please [contact your local authority](#), who will seek to redirect you to a local school in your area that your child, or children, can attend.