

"Hand in hand we learn and together we achieve"

# Our Lady & St Edward's Catholic Primary School

Price Street, Birkenhead, Merseyside CH41 8DU t: 0151 652 3366 f: 0151 653 7248 e: schooloffice@ourlady-saintedwards.wirral.sch.uk www.ourlady-saintedwards.co.uk

Dear Parents / Carers

Please find below further clarification on Key Workers.

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

The key workers have been identified as:

### 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 distributers 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),



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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 you have not already completed the key worker form sent home yesterday, please do so and bring proof of employment with you now later than 12 noon today. We had thought the guidance would say that both parents/carers would need to be key workers unless you are a single key worker parent. It did not say this but has made it clear that we should be trying to have as **few children in school as possible as we are all safer if we minimise social contact. If one parent who is a key worker has a partner who is not working or can work at home, we would expect you to keep your children at home.** Some parents whose children are in these categories may be able to make arrangements for their children not to be in school. This is to reduce the spread of the virus as much as possible by reducing the numbers of children and staff in schools to a minimum. **No parents/carers are required to send their children to school at this time.** 

**Kind Regards** 

Mrs E McGunigall Headteacher



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