



## BROOMFIELD SCHOOL

*Head Teacher: Mr P. P. Travis*

20<sup>th</sup> March 2020.

Dear Parents/Carers,

### **Coronavirus and the School, update**

Further to my letter to you yesterday, please find below further details as promised.

You will be aware that to limit the chance of the virus spreading the Government has closed schools to most pupils from the end of the day today, Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2020.

Schools have however been asked to remain open for a limited number of pupils, i.e.

- children who are vulnerable and
- children whose parents are critical to the Covid-19 response, i.e. 'key workers' and cannot be safely cared for at home.

These are the only pupils who should be attending school and therefore Broomfield School will remain open for these pupils from Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020. To assist with the School's planning for this provision, if you believe that you fall into the category of key worker and are not able to make safe alternative provision, please follow this link to complete the form <https://forms.gle/WkQ9Yv2Bx4teFysn9>

Who exactly are these two groups of the pupils who should still be attending school? This has been defined for us by the Government who has said the following in their guidance of the 19<sup>th</sup> March 2020.

The first group is as follows.

'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.'

The second group is as follows.

'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**

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,



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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.'

Many parents working in these key sectors may be able to ensure their child is kept at home. Should this not be the case however, the school is open and pupils should attend as outlined below **providing they are well and are not otherwise required to self-isolate.**



To ensure that we are all following Government expectations we shall be asking these key-worker parents to produce a letter or perhaps their work pass as evidence that they meet the key worker requirements.

The school day will be from 8.30 am to 3.15 pm. The canteen will be open to these pupils from 8.15 am. These pupils should attend school in full school-uniform and bring their PE kit each day. The school will offer a timetabled curriculum similar to its normal provision. The school canteen will be open and those on free school-meals will receive these as usual.

(It is expected that the school will also be open to these two groups of children during the Easter holiday period. However, details of this will be provided in due course.)

To assist with the school's planning for this provision, if you believe that you fall into the category of key worker and are not able to make safe alternative provision, please follow this link to complete the form <https://forms.gle/WkQ9Yv2Bx4teFysn9>

With very best wishes.

Yours faithfully,



P. P. Travis,  
Head Teacher.