

20 March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

**Children of key workers**

Throughout the last few weeks, we have followed the Government's guidance on how to respond to the Coronavirus and been active supporters of the strategy to combat the Coronavirus crisis. Our staff have worked exceptionally hard to provide the very best Catholic education for all of our young people.

From the end of school today (Friday 20 March), schools will close for all pupils apart from the most vulnerable and children of key workers.

In order to support key workers and the contributions they can make to fighting the spread of the virus, we will be keeping each of our schools open for children of key workers. If you work in the sectors identified by the Government as key worker roles, you will be able to keep sending your child/children to their usual school, to enable you to continue to work.

You will be able to take advantage of this provision if **one** of the child's parents are identified as key workers. The government have also stated that, "**if it is at all possible for children to be at home, then they should be.**"

**Who are the key workers?** Please see the attached list of key worker roles

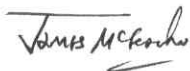
If you work in one of these sectors, please could you contact Ms O'Neill by emailing [contact@smca.nottingham.sch.uk](mailto:contact@smca.nottingham.sch.uk) at school and confirm:

- which field you work in
- the name of the department you work in (where applicable)
- your specific job title

In order to register your child / children to continue to attend school from Monday, please could you try to return this information by **2pm this afternoon** (Friday 20 March).

Please feel free to contact Ms O'Neill at school if you would like to discuss this extra provision. Please contact the school directly to see if the kitchen is providing a lunch service. Children of key workers who are entitled to free school meals will have this provided in school. You may, of course also send your child with a packed lunch.

Yours sincerely



James McGeachie  
CEO, Our Lady of Lourdes CMAT



Kerry O'Neill  
Acting Head of School, St Mary's Catholic Academy



## **Key Worker List – 20 March 2020**

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, 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 arm's 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.

We are grateful for the work of teachers and workers in educational settings for continuing to provide for the children of the other critical workers of our country. It is an essential part of our national effort to combat this disease.