

Eynsham Partnership Academy

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20th March 2020

Dear Parents / Carers,

Key Worker and Vulnerable Children provision

We are writing to you to explain how we will initially provide a quality education provision during this challenging time for key groups.

As you realise the country is adapting quickly – with advice and guidance to schools changing and developing daily. EPA and our skilled teams in schools are working together to provide education for those workers essential for the continued running of the country such as those in the NHS and support fields.

The government is quite clear in encouraging families to stay at home if possible – including this wording in their guidance:

‘... 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.’

The government published a list of key worker definitions early this morning. Links to this document and a separate guide for parents and carers are at the end of this letter. Please note that if you fall within the critical categories in the list you should confirm with your employer that, based on their business continuity arrangements, your specific role is necessary for the continuation of this essential public service and that you personally will be at work to fulfil this.

For roles outside the NHS, Emergency services and military we may ask for confirmation of your role and the circumstance that require you to need support. Please do not be offended by this but our staff are coming into schools to support so we do want to ensure that we are only dealing with genuine needs strictly in line with government guidance.

Our staff are very positive about the need to support key workers’ children and ensure that they are safe and supported and educated whilst their parents fulfil their important roles at this time.

All of our schools will be open on Monday morning to assess the number of children that absolutely need to attend. We are going to review numbers in our primary schools on Monday and Tuesday. We will also review how many staff are in school – as they may be self-isolating or have other agreed reasons that they cannot be in school.

It may be the case that we need to shut our smaller schools and combine key worker provision in local schools. We will keep you informed about this – we may decide to do this as early as Wednesday or Thursday next week.

Yours

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Brown', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

David Brown
CEO, EPA

[Update from GOV.UK – Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): maintaining educational provision](#)

[Update from GOV.UK – Closure of educational settings: information for parents and carers](#)