



Oakhurst Community First & Nursery  
School  
*'From Little Acorns Mighty Oaks  
Grow'*

Dear parents and carers

Information was published last night to guide the school closure process. If you think are a critical worker, or your child is vulnerable, please check the list via the link below, or see the list attached to the end of this ParentMail.

Critical workers and vulnerable children who can access schools or educational settings - GOV.UK ([www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk))

The over-riding message is 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.' We remain open for critical workers' children, when they 'absolutely need to attend, as detailed in the list, but only while they are attending work. At others times, the children should be cared for 'safely at home'. We do this so 'fewer children making the journey to school, and the fewer children in educational settings....lower the risk that the virus can spread and infect vulnerable individuals in wider society.' Please complete the form issued on ParentMail, if you believe you are a critical worker, please also let us know when you will need your child to attend.

This is a huge sacrifice we are all making to protect our vulnerable people.

Other children, such as those with a social worker or an EHCP may also attend. Please complete the form issued on ParentMail if you wish your child to attend.

If your child attends Nursery they can still attend if you absolutely need them too. Please complete the form issued on ParentMail if you wish your child to attend.

In all cases please complete the form issued on ParentMail, **by 1pm on Tuesday 5th January**

Kind regards

Ann Clark

### **Vulnerable children and young people**

Vulnerable children and young people include those who:

- are assessed as being in need under section 17 of the Children Act 1989, including children and young people who have a child in need plan, a child protection plan or who are a looked-after child
- have an education, health and care (EHC) plan
- have been identified as otherwise vulnerable by educational providers or local authorities (including children's social care services), and who could therefore benefit from continued full-time attendance, this might include:
  - children and young people on the edge of receiving support from children's social care services or in the process of being referred to children's services
  - adopted children or children on a special guardianship order
  - those at risk of becoming NEET ('not in employment, education or training')

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The Heath Academy Trust  
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- those living in temporary accommodation
- those who are young carers
- those who may have difficulty engaging with remote education at home (for example due to a lack of devices or quiet space to study)
- care leavers
- others at the provider and local authority's discretion including pupils and students who need to attend to receive support or manage risks to their mental health

### **Critical workers**

Parents whose work is critical to the coronavirus (COVID-19) and EU transition response include those who work in health and social care and in other key sectors outlined in the following sections.

### **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:

- childcare
- support and teaching staff
- social workers
- specialist education professionals who must remain active during the coronavirus (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
- 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 coronavirus (COVID-19) response, and the delivery of and response to EU transition
- essential public services, such as the payment of benefits and the certification or checking of goods for import and export (including animal products, animals, plants and food), including in government agencies and arms length bodies

### **Food and other necessary goods**

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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 coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak and EU transition)
- 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 and border**

This includes those who will keep the air, water, road and rail passenger and freight transport modes operating during the coronavirus (COVID-19) response and EU transition, including those working on transport systems through which supply chains pass and those constructing or supporting the operation of critical transport and border infrastructure 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 coronavirus (COVID-19) response
- 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
- waste disposal sectors