



20 March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Vulnerable Children/Children of Key Workers:

Further to my letter yesterday, we have now heard from the Government regarding what constitutes a 'key worker'. As stated nationally, vulnerable children and the children of key workers will continue to have access to provision in schools, **wherever possible**. This provision will be to care for and supervise young people, not to provide normal, national curriculum education.

The Government have also stated that **"if it is at all possible for children to be at home, then they should be."**

At St Joseph's we believe that we have now gathered the details of all parents where their employment falls into one of the categories detailed on the attached list, and where they or another member of their household **cannot care for their child/children at home due to the demands of their critical work**. These parents will be contacted to confirm provision is available. If you have not yet contacted school, please do so immediately.

With regard to meal arrangements, all children attending school during this period will be provided with a free school lunch (which may be hot or cold). Should you wish you can, of course, send your child with a packed lunch from home. For those entitled to free school meals and who are not included in the key groups attending school, you will receive further information as soon as is feasible.

In the eventuality of staff shortages, we may need to further reduce the number of children in school. Priority categories for continued provision would be in the following order:

1. Vulnerable children with a linked social worker or EHCP
2. Families with **both** parents/carers as key workers (as per list attached)
3. Other vulnerable children (as notified by school)
4. Families with **one** key worker parent/carer



**St Ralph
Sherwin**
Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Please be aware that the health and safety of all children and staff in our schools is paramount. If school is closed, then please contact your Local Authority, who will seek to redirect you to a local school in your area at which your child could be offered a place.

Take care and God bless you and your families.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'SMcClafferty', written in a cursive style.

Sean McClafferty
Chief Executive Officer
St Ralph Sherwin Catholic Multi Academy Trust