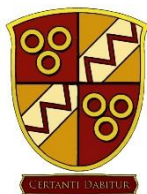


The Oldershaw Academy

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20th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Following the announcements yesterday, from Monday school closures will apply to all students except for children of key workers and children considered to be the most vulnerable (this includes any child with an Allocated Social Worker or any child with an Educational Health Care Plan).

Clear guidance on the definition of a Key Worker was finally released late yesterday evening (19th March) and is listed below:

The DfE list for Key Workers is as follows:

- Health and social care
- Education and childcare
- Key public services
- Local and national government
- Food and other necessary goods
- Public safety and national security
- Transport
- Utilities, communication and financial services

The Government guidance clearly states: **'If it is at all possible for children to be at home, then they should be'** and advises parents/carers to consider the following:

- If children can stay safely at home, they should, to limit the chance of the virus spreading
- Schools to remain open only for those children who absolutely need to attend
- Fewer children making the journey to school, and the fewer children in educational settings, the lower the risk that the virus can spread and infect vulnerable individuals in wider society
- Schools are, therefore, being asked to continue to provide care for a limited number of children

The DfE advises that 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.

For parents who are Key Workers who want their children to attend Oldershaw from Monday 23rd March please read carefully:

If you are a key worker and would need your child/ward to remain in a school during this Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak (i.e. you do not have alternative options at home to look after your children), we need to know this information as soon as possible and are asking key workers to complete a short survey.

Please use the following link to access the survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/RVW7NBH>

You should only respond to this survey if you are a key worker and need to send your children to a school in these circumstances. Also, please note that you do not have to take up the offer of a place – we are

concerned that numbers will be small, friendship groups will not be together and staff and students remain 'at risk', especially if our children with Education Health Care Plans have underlying medical conditions.

If there is a requirement for your child/household to self-isolate, please keep them at home. We will not be able to offer this provision or any alternative. If you cannot complete the survey online, please phone the school office and provide them with this information.

The school requires this information by 8 am on Monday 23rd March 2020.

The full DfE advice for Key workers:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

Students eligible for free school meals

National plans to provide food vouchers are in advanced planning with Government departments. The Academy will communicate to families as soon as we have the appropriate information. **Parents must provide an email address to ensure the Academy can keep in touch.**

We will continue to update all in the Oldershaw community through our website. Please ensure the school has your current email address.

Thank you for your continued support in the most difficult of times.

Yours faithfully



J M Bush
Principal