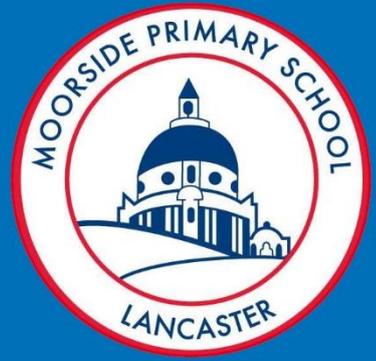


# Moorside Primary School

Bowerham Road Newlands LANCASTER LA1 4HT  
01524 66516 [www.moorside-pri.lancs.sch.uk](http://www.moorside-pri.lancs.sch.uk)



Headteacher: Mr Roger Shone  
Deputy Headteacher: Mr Jonathan Whitwell  
Assistant Headteachers: Mrs Alice Earnshaw & Mrs Kate Nuttall

20<sup>th</sup> March 2020

## Essential Workers

Dear Parents/Carers

### School Closure due to Coronavirus Pandemic

As you will be aware, the Prime Minister has instructed that all schools are to close, as from end of school today, until further notice. Therefore, **do not** bring children to school on Monday unless your occupation fits one of the essential key worker categories. We have provided home learning support for all our children and will continue to do so over the coming weeks. Schools have been asked to provide **childcare** for key workers and vulnerable children. School is closed – but Key Worker Childcare will operate from Monday. Schools will offer places to eligible pupils – please see further guidance attached, which wasn't available when yesterday's letter was sent out.

Please note that self-isolation rules still apply – if any member of the household displays COVID-19 symptoms, all in the home must self-isolate. We will issue further guidance about the strict hygiene rules we will be applying from Monday soon.

We are preparing for a lockdown situation, as is happening in other parts of the world, to help minimise social contacts and significantly reduce the spread of Coronavirus COVID-19. Therefore, **“every child who can be cared for safely at home, should be.”** Our Key Worker Childcare is to enable specific parents, who have no other alternative provision without this support, to do their part in helping keep essential services going. **We expect parents to only use this facility when there is no alternative child care. It is not so that parents can continue normal life, but so essential services can operate.** If parents try and access this service when they have some form of childcare, for example, a parent working from home, then the service will be unsustainable and collapse completely. Please note, that we may also ask you to provide proof of your occupation by approaching your employer to confirm working patterns and that you are not currently on any form of leave.

**Yesterday we sent an initial request for information, if you did not respond, then please try and respond by 5pm today, so that we have a more complete picture of who is likely to attend. To allow us to collect this information efficiently and keep it separate from our other work we are using a separate email address: [keyworker@moorside-pri.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:keyworker@moorside-pri.lancs.sch.uk). Please also tell us which class your child is in and whether you actually need to take up the offer of a key worker place.**

**In order to help our planning we require this information as soon as possible and by no later than 5pm today.**

More information and letters to follow shortly.

**If you wish to use this service it is a requirement that you complete the attached declaration form and return it on Monday.**

Yours sincerely

Roger Shone

# Guidance for schools, colleges and local authorities on maintaining educational provision

Published 19 March 2020

Please read the following statement from the Government before completing the form.

Please, therefore, follow these key principles:

- 1. If it is at all possible for children to be at home, then they should be.**
- 2. If a child needs specialist support, is vulnerable or has a parent who is a critical worker, then educational provision will be available for them.**
3. Parents should not rely for childcare upon those who are advised to be in the stringent social distancing category such as grandparents, friends, or family members with underlying conditions.
4. Parents should also do everything they can to ensure children are not mixing socially in a way which can continue to spread the virus. They should observe the same social distancing principles as adults.
5. Residential special schools, boarding schools and special settings continue to care for children wherever possible.

**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 arms 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.”

**ALL PARENTS OF CHILDREN WHO ARE ATTENDING SCHOOL DURING THE COVID 19 CLOSURE MUST COMPLETE AND RETURN THIS FORM WITH THEIR CHILDREN ON MONDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> MARCH**

## DECLARATION FORM

I confirm that:

(Please print name) \_\_\_\_\_

I am an essential key worker (see attached list)

Please state your job role

I have no alternative child care

I am not on any form of leave

I confirm my work is critical to the COVID 19 response/ I work in one of the critical sectors on the attached list. I confirm that the information that I have provided is true and accurate and that if there is a change to the above I will inform you.

Signed (parent/carer) ..... Date .....