

Burford Primary School
Priory Lane, Burford, Oxon, OX18 4SG



SCHOOL website: www.burford-pri.oxon.sch.uk

'Respect, Aspire, Achieve'

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20th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are writing to share with you the arrangements for children eligible to continue attending Burford Primary School as from Monday 23rd March.

Please note that, **if children are able to stay at home safely they should** as the 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.

As shared in this morning's early parentmail, the government has now announced the key workers list. This can be found at the following link:

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

As you are aware, we are currently in communication with our parents and carers who are deemed to be key workers under this guidance. **It is important to stress that, if children can safely stay at home they should do. You should only send them in to school, regardless of whether your occupation is on the list, if it is not safe for them to work from home.** The guidelines are clear that the closure of schools is there to limit the spread of the virus. With fewer children travelling to school the risk of spreading the virus to vulnerable groups is fewer.

There will also be children who would be vulnerable if they are at home regardless of parents occupations. Schools are, therefore, being asked to continue to provide care for a limited number of children - children who are vulnerable.

Vulnerable children include children who are supported by social care, those with safeguarding and welfare needs, including child in need plans, on child protection plans, 'looked after' children, young carers, disabled children and those with special education needs.



The following principles should be applied:

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.

Children attending school will **not** be taught lessons in the normal format, and they will largely be using areas to access the same work as those children working from home. Social distancing will be applied where possible.

Many thanks for your support with this and we hope that things will go back to normal as quickly as is possible.

Lisa Austin and Clare Silvester

Interim Head Teachers