

20th March 2020



Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary
School
Headteacher: Miss A Allan

Dear Parents and Carers,

In the early hours of this morning, the government released their list of people they believe to be keyworkers. Please see below:

Those who work in 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.

Those who work in education

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.

What are our arrangements as a School / Children's Centre?

The advice is that wherever possible, children will stay at home to minimise the spread of the virus however it is recognised that this is not possible for every family.

As a school we will be open to vulnerable and keyworker children daily from 9am to 3.30pm. We are allowed to take a maximum of 20% of our cohort so I am afraid we will need to prioritise some families over others. These are the guidelines that we are following here at SJC:

- We must offer a place to a child with a social worker or family social work involvement
- We must offer a place to a child with an Education Health and Care plan (EHCP)
- Children with 2 parents who are keyworkers or of a single parent family where the parent is a keyworker
- Children with 1 parent who is a keyworker and a valid reason why the child will be safer at school than at home
- Children who are vulnerable in other ways and either identified by the school or by parents informing the school

I realise that this is very short notice, however I would be very grateful if you could e mail the office if you are wishing to take up a place in our childcare during the closure period by 2.00pm this afternoon. In your e mail, please state the reason why you need the place and if you need the place every day or only some days.

The short notice is to allow us to work out numbers and prioritise children as per the list above, if more than 20% of children are applying.

Once again I would like to repeat that the government guidance is that if you can keep your child at home, this is the preference. We will not be offering full days of education. We will cover the home learning and offer some physical activity. The day will primarily be childcare.

Many thanks for your understanding during this difficult time.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Allan', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Miss Allan