



23 March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

As you know we are all working in an ever changing environment and the advice given to Principals varies on a daily basis.

Following the latest information, I should explain that priority will be given to children of key workers (one or two) dependent on the circumstances and requirements over the course of this critical period.

Please be advised that a limited number of our teaching and support staff are currently available to provide cover and they will also be responsible for providing online / remote learning.

The Minister for Education, Mr Peter Weir, has again called for key worker parents only to **use schools as a last resort** to provide care for their children as they carry out their essential duty. If there is alternative provision this must be sought. If there is a parent/guardian/elder sibling at home, the child should be kept at home.

In order to ensure all those who need support receive it, it is necessary to keep numbers to a minimum so that we can comply with social distancing requirements.

It is vitally important that schools are aware of how many children of key workers will be attending schools, **in advance**, so that adequate provision can be arranged.

With this in mind, **if you are an identified key worker and would like to request a place for your child/ren please contact school on 028 7772 2485 or email me at msmyth551@c2kni.net no later than 3pm today.**

Please state each child's name, class, key worker parent's occupation, telephone number and the days/times that cover is required for the rest of this week.

School will not be able to offer the normal wraparound services available, therefore normal opening and closing times will apply; **9am – 3pm**.

Any child of a key worker who has any underlying health condition, injury or who is feeling unwell, in any way, MUST remain at home.

We would ask that you pay attention to the points outlined above before deciding to send your child to school. Obviously, it goes without saying, if your only option is to send your child to school, we will certainly look after them in order to support you in your important role.

The health and well-being of our pupils, staff and families is always our priority, so please take care and stay safe.

Yours sincerely,

Maureen Smyth

Mrs Maureen Smyth

Principal

LIST OF KEY WORKERS AS OUTLINED ON DOCUMENTATION ISSUED TO SCHOOLS ON 19TH MARCH 2020

- Health and Social Care. This includes doctors, nurses, midwives, paramedics, social workers, home carers and staff required to maintain our health and social care sector
- Education and childcare. This includes nursery and teaching staff, social workers and those specialist education professionals who will remain active during the Covid-19 response
- Public safety and national security. This includes civilians and officers in the police (including key contractors), Fire and Rescue Service, prison service and other national security roles
- Transport. This will include those keeping air, water, road and rail transport modes operating during the Covid-19 response
- Utilities and Communication. This includes staff needed for oil, gas, electricity and water (including sewage) and primary industry supplies, to continue during the Covid-19 response, as well as key staff in telecommunications, post and delivery, services and waste disposal
- Food and other necessary goods. This includes those involved in food production, processing, distribution and sale, as well as those essential to the provision of other key goods (e.g hygiene, medical etc)
- Key national and local government including those administrative occupations essential to the effective delivery of the Covid-19 response.