



Friday 20 March 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian

Re.: NORTHERN IRELAND SCHOOLS OPEN TO KEY WORKERS

Until further notice, school will open from **Tuesday 24th March** to facilitate those children whose parents are critical to the Covid-19 response ('key worker') and who would otherwise have no option but to stay at home to ensure safe supervision of their children. Guidance on vulnerable children has yet to be issued by the Department of Education.

If you are a 'key worker' as defined below, and anticipate that your child will be in school on Monday, please ring school (90 401246) on Friday 20th March and alert us to this, as well as provide us with information on the nature of your work. There is a simple registration process that Miss Murphy (secretary) needs to complete with you by telephone. Upon completion of this registration, and after some initial checks are complete, school will confirm if your registration has been successful.

Key workers are those who are maintaining essential public services during the Covid-19 response. Broad categories of what would be defined as a key worker are:

- ✓ 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.);
- ✓ Other workers essential to delivering key public services;

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- ✓ Key national and local government including those administrative occupations essential to the effective delivery of the Covid-19 response;

Pupils who do attend will not be “taught”, but will be provided with the facilities to continue with the work already provided.

School uniform should be worn.

Eligible parents also need to consider and make their own judgment call regarding sending their child(ren) back into school, along with other children and adults whose social movements are unknown. We are all assuming mutual trust of course regarding limiting our contact with the wider public outside of our own family circles.

Cregagh Primary School remains resolute in its endeavour to do its best by the school community in very challenging circumstances for us all, and we will continue to update stakeholders at every opportunity. We appreciate again your support and encouragement.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Maguire", is enclosed in a light grey rectangular box.

Principal