



Friday 20th March 2020

Good morning,

Unfortunately, we do not have an accurate register of those children requiring a place at school as from Monday 23rd March 2020. I am sure you can appreciate that it is vitally important for safeguarding reasons along with assisting me in the organising the practicalities of running a school, that we know who to expect in our setting each day.

The most recent scientific advice on how to further limit the spread of COVID-19 is clear:

If children can stay safely at home, they should, to limit the chance of the virus spreading.

That is why the government has asked parents to keep their children at home, wherever possible, and asked **schools to remain open only for those children who absolutely need to attend.**

It is important to underline that schools, colleges and other educational establishments remain safe places for children. But 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.

Schools are, therefore, being asked to continue to provide care for a limited number of children - children who are vulnerable and children whose parents are critical to the Covid-19 response and cannot be safely cared for at home.

Please could you let us know by lunchtime today whether your child **needs** to attend school on Monday using this new link?

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdpPRXi7mPveXbLTcCY0VFacH927oSLaY_J2muSiZ7CvxvU6Q/viewform

If you are sending your child into school I will need your permission to share your child's data with the other schools in our Poulton cluster.

We are aware that this is to be an ever-changing picture with greater demand for those nursing or shift patterns altering and we will set up a booking system to allow us to know who to expect each day. If your child is registered with Pupil Premium and you require a free school meal to be provided you will be required to place an order before 9am each day. This is inclusive for children that are in our school as needing care as well as those that can stay at home. If your child is at home you will be able to collect a lunch from school at 11:30am.

Our new school day, while manageable, from Monday 23rd will be from 08:30-17:30 to enable keyworkers to be in work for a 09:00 -17:00 day.

We are incredibly saddened to be saying farewell to pupils so early on in the year and are very aware of the challenges we will all face when we return to normal running of school. We hope that you all stay well and your families too.

I would like to thank you so much for your support in what is a very concerning time.

With best wishes,

Susan McGrath