

Keyworkers – priorities Free School Meals

We have had unexpectedly high demand for places on our keyworker childcare provision.

In line with Government recommendations, we have limited places available due to the necessity of keeping this provision at the correct scale to protect both our staff and the children who attend. We will allocate places to between 30 and 34 children, 10% of the children on roll at school.

If the provision is too large it negates any benefits of the social distancing measures the government has imposed and through associated contacts children and staff will be exposed to unacceptable risk.

This is not 'business as usual' or a holiday and all medical advisers are clear that the safest place for children and families to be at present is **at home with as little social contact as possible**. These childcare places are intended for families who have no other adult at home to look after children and who are immediately required in the response to this virus. Thus the first tier consists of frontline medical workers and emergency services where both parents are required to work or there is only one parent present. Thank you to all our keyworkers for your commitment to our public services and I hope you can see the logic of the approach we've adopted.

We have set up a payment item within parent pay named "School Places for Children of Key Workers". This form will allow you to request a place for your child on a weekly basis with effect from Tuesday 24th March and should be completed by 9am on Monday 23rd March. **Please note school will be closed on Monday 23rd March to allow us to collate this information.** Moving forward we will require your request for a place on the preceding Friday. As part of this form you will be required to provide details of the occupation of all household members which you should base on the tiers below. We will then make an offer of a place for the remainder of the week if applicable via your email.

Tiering	Descriptor
Tier 1 – will be allocated a place first where available	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NHS frontline clinical staff or administrators (e.g. NHS 911 etc.) working directly with Coronavirus patients; • First responders (i.e. paramedics or those who support them) • Police officers and some civilian police staff (e.g. dispatchers); • Firefighters; • Those in NHS support services needed to keep hospitals and clinics running – e.g. hospital porters, full time hospital cleaners etc. (please explain when you e-mail us)
Tier 2 – will be allocated a place when all places are not used by Tier 1 parents (effectively first waiting list)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other frontline NHS workers (e.g. midwives, pathologists, CT scan operators, radiographers) • Local authority staff working in key emergency planning roles; • Some Ministry of Defence personnel;
Tier 3 – keyworkers who may be needed if/when the crisis escalates (effectively second waiting list – clinical staff offered first)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Those in other NHS/private care roles who will not be called upon to assist in coronavirus cases – e.g. care home staff, researchers, private pharmacists, OT, NHS administrators, other medical specialities etc.) • Social workers;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Those involved with the supply chain for supermarkets and pharmacies (i.e. supermarket delivery drivers and those in supporting logistics roles) • Those working for TfL in key transport roles (train drivers, bus drivers) • Prison officers and some other prison staff or involved in judicial system; • Those working in care homes or in meals on wheels; • Community police officers; • Teachers and other school staff
<p>Tier 4 – not able to offer a place</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Those involved in the water industry – delivery or maintenance; • ICT or telecoms workers in critical roles (please explain in e-mail) • Those employed in necessary government processes such as the payment of benefits. • Probation service staff; • Those involved in fuel or gas deliveries or maintenance; • Associated staff in support roles for transport services; • NHS medical students

In addition there is a further item called "Free School Meal Booking". This is in respect of any child who is entitled to a free school meal irrespective of whether your child may be attending school under the Key Worker tiering system. If you would like your child to have a meal provided please book on the online form by 9am each day. There is a section to specify which sandwich your child may like. The packed lunch can then be collected from the school kitchen at 11.30 am. If your child is in school under the Key Worker Tiering System then they will be provided with a lunch as usual.

Children in school under the Key Worker tiering system may have a packed lunch or a school meal. School meals can be ordered on the day and payment should be made as normal on Parent Pay.