

Mel Meggs
Strategic Director for Children's
Services
1st Floor
Civic Centre 3
Market Street
HUDDERSFIELD
HD1 2EY

Tel: 01484 221000
Email: mel.meggs@kirklees.gov.uk
www.kirklees.gov.uk

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Dear parent/carer

I am writing to let you know that, although we are now in a new national lockdown, schools are open for some pupils – the children of critical workers and children who are classed as vulnerable.

As you have a child who is considered vulnerable, they have priority for a school place. This is because we know that vulnerable children are the most at risk of falling behind with their learning if they don't go to school.

The government have been clear that schools are safe for children to attend and that limiting the number of those attending is to help us reduce the overall number of social contacts in our communities.

We would encourage all parents/carers of vulnerable children to send their child to school each day if at all possible. Many are already doing so, of course, and we thank them. We also know that some vulnerable children cannot attend school because, for example, they are shielding due to a health condition. For those children, we are trying to provide support to help them continue learning at home.

However, some parents/carers are keeping their vulnerable child at home even though a school place is open for them. For children who are vulnerable, going to school – rather than staying at home – can make a huge difference. This applies both in the short term and the longer term.

We know this is a worrying situation. If you would like to discuss your concerns or ask any questions, please contact your school or social worker directly.

We sincerely hope you and your family stay safe and well at this very difficult time.

Yours sincerely



Mel Meggs
Strategic Director for Children's Services