

20<sup>th</sup> March 2020



Dear Parents/Carer

**Re: Confirmation of Critical Worker Status**

Late last night the Government announced the list of workers who are considered to be critical to the fight against COVID-19. If a parent works within one of these critical sectors they are entitled to ask schools to provide care for their children.

Yesterday, we sent out information with a list of possible key workers that was incomplete. I would ask you to disregard the previous letter and work from this updated information.

**Guidance for parents**

Parents whose work is critical to the COVID-19 response include those who work in health and social care and in other key sectors outlined below. Many parents working in these sectors may be able to ensure their child is kept at home. And every child who can be safely cared for at home should be.

Please, therefore, follow these key principles:

1. If it is at all possible for children to be at home, then they should be.
2. If a child needs specialist support, is vulnerable or has a parent who is a critical worker, then educational provision will be available for them.
3. Parents should not rely for childcare upon those who are advised to be in the stringent social distancing category such as grandparents, friends, or family members with underlying conditions.
4. Parents should also do everything they can to ensure children are not mixing socially in a way which can continue to spread the virus. They should observe the same social distancing principles as adults.
5. Residential special schools, boarding schools and special settings continue to care for children wherever possible.

We appreciate this is a very difficult and worrying time for everyone, and we appreciate your support and patience as we work through all the details.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jo Ware", written over a horizontal line.

Jo Ware  
Head of School  
UTC Plymouth

### Key Worker Confirmation form:

1. The name of your child/children:

	Year group
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	

2. Please confirm if you are classified as a key worker (see list below).

Parent/Carer 1 name:	Yes	No
I can confirm that I am a key worker.		

Parent/Carer 2 name:	Yes	No
I can confirm that I am a key worker.		

Key Worker Sector	Parent 1	Parent 2
<p><b>Health and social care</b> This includes but is not limited to doctors, nurses, midwives, paramedics, social workers, care workers, and other frontline health and social care staff including volunteers; the support and specialist staff required to maintain the UK's health and social care sector; those working as part of the health and social care supply chain, including producers and distributors of medicines and medical and personal protective equipment.</p>		
<p><b>Education and childcare</b> This includes nursery and teaching staff, social workers and those specialist education professionals who must remain active during the COVID-19 response to deliver this approach.</p>		
<p><b>Key public services</b> This includes those essential to the running of the justice system, religious staff, charities and workers delivering key frontline services, those responsible for the management of the deceased, and journalists and broadcasters who are providing public service broadcasting.</p>		
<p><b>Local and national government</b> This only includes those administrative occupations essential to the effective delivery of the COVID-19 response or delivering essential public services such as the payment of benefits, including in government agencies and arms length bodies.</p>		
<p><b>Food and other necessary goods</b> This includes those involved in food production, processing, distribution, sale and delivery as well as those essential to the provision of other key goods (for example hygienic and veterinary medicines).</p>		
<p><b>Public safety and national security</b></p>		

This includes police and support staff, Ministry of Defence civilians, contractor and armed forces personnel (those critical to the delivery of key defence and national security outputs and essential to the response to the COVID-19 pandemic), fire and rescue service employees (including support staff), National Crime Agency staff, those maintaining border security, prison and probation staff and other national security roles, including those overseas.		
<b>Transport</b> This includes those who will keep the air, water, road and rail passenger and freight transport modes operating during the COVID-19 response, including those working on transport systems through which supply chains pass.		
<b>Utilities, communication and financial services</b> This includes staff needed for essential financial services provision (including but not limited to workers in banks, building societies and financial market infrastructure), the oil, gas, electricity and water sectors (including sewerage), information technology and data infrastructure sector and primary industry supplies to continue during the COVID-19 response, as well as key staff working in the civil nuclear, chemicals, telecommunications (including but not limited to network operations, field engineering, call centre staff, IT and data infrastructure, 999 and 111 critical services), postal services and delivery, payments providers and waste disposal sectors.		

*Please note – we believe that only one parent needs to be considered a ‘critical worker’ for you to access childcare at school.*

3. As a critical worker are you able to keep your child safe at home while you work or with suitable childcare (not with Grandparents, friends or family with underlying health conditions).

	Yes	No
I have childcare that meets appropriate criteria.		

4. Please confirm if you will be need your child/children to come to school on a regular basis due to your critical worker status.

	Yes	No
I will need my child to come to school on a regular basis		

5. What hours of childcare will you need in order to carry out your critical role? We cannot guarantee that we will be able to meet these needs at this stage.

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**Name of Parent / Carer:**

**Signature:**

**Date:**