



Dear Parents and Carers,

We would like to thank everyone for your support in such complex, challenging and rapidly changing circumstances. We are being asked to work in a highly flexible way across all facets of the working arrangements within school.

In terms of the decision-making process around health issues about who should physically be in school, please make sure that you continue to refer to the guidance around self-isolation. Until it is updated, all of the core guidance from PHE remains the same.

We are being asked by the Local Authority to map out arrangements to Easter to ensure the education of children of key workers and those with EHCPs. The government will update its definition of **key workers** today. However, in essence, **these are people in health, social care, teachers, the emergency services and delivery drivers** who have no alternative childcare arrangements. We are requesting parents to self-identify if they consider themselves to be a key worker and require this provision in school. What happens during the Easter holidays and beyond for children of key workers is still under discussion.

Please see reverse of this letter and complete as appropriate and return to school if you think you may fall under the category of a key worker.

We are still awaiting the latest Government guidance on children eligible for Free School Meals.

We are very aware that some of our children and parents are finding this situation very worrying and stressful, particularly our Year 6 children. Please find below links to support everyone around mental wellbeing at this time:

<https://www.mind.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/ResponseCoronavirusENG6.2.2020-.pdf>

https://www.who.int/docs/default-source/coronaviruse/helping-children-cope-with-stress-print.pdf?sfvrsn=f3a063ff_2

https://www.nytimes.com/2020/03/11/well/family/coronavirus-teenagers-anxiety.html?fbclid=IwAR3ZiNhgumvsqDnY9Ewh0WmDpbbcO3Mfr4UJdcB_doNnxaNLK9b42KZFnhw

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2020/mar/02/stop-a-worry-becoming-catastrophic-how-to-talk-to-your-kids-about-the-coronavirus>

Anna Freud: Self-Care and Coping Strategies

<https://www.annafreud.org/selfcare/>

BBC: How to protect your mental health

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-51873799>

CBBC: Video and Questions

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/51861089>

ChildMind: Talking to Children

<https://childmind.org/article/talking-to-kids-about-the-coronavirus/>

ELSA: Coronavirus Story for Children

<https://www.elsa-support.co.uk/coronavirus-story-for-children/>

National Association of School Psychologists: Parent Resources

[https://www.nasponline.org/resources-and-publications/resources-and-podcasts/school-climate-safety-and-crisis/health-crisis-resources/talking-to-children-about-covid-19-\(coronavirus\)-a-parent-resource](https://www.nasponline.org/resources-and-publications/resources-and-podcasts/school-climate-safety-and-crisis/health-crisis-resources/talking-to-children-about-covid-19-(coronavirus)-a-parent-resource)

Young Minds: Feeling Anxious about Coronavirus

<https://youngminds.org.uk/blog/what-to-do-if-you-re-anxious-about-coronavirus>

Thank you again for your continued support.

Wendy Gill & staff