



THE WENSLEYDALE SCHOOL
& SIXTH FORM
LEYBURN

20 March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

COVID-19 UPDATE – FRIDAY 20 MARCH 2020

This is the first of two letters we will be sending you today. This letter is to provide information on who key workers are and the procedures you will need to follow if you are a key worker and you need your child/ren to attend school on the days you work. The second letter, coming to you this afternoon, will provide detailed information on the arrangements for the home 'education' of students and the expectations around these arrangements.

With this letter, is a Google form that parents who are classified as 'key workers' need to complete **today by 6.00 pm**. To complete the form, you will need to sign in to Google first. If you have any difficulty in accessing the form, please email admin@wensleydaleschool.net using the title '**Covid-19 school request**' and provide the following information:

- Your name
- Your employer
- Your job title
- Whether you require your child to come to school
- Your child's name
- The days and times you work
- How your child will get to/from school (i.e. school bus or parental drop off)

To be clear, **only children of key workers – those considered critical to the country's response to the coronavirus pandemic – and vulnerable students will attend schools for the foreseeable future**. In guidance published late last night, the Department for Education (DfE) published a list of roles that are considered to be those of 'key workers'.

The government has said that "many parents working in these sectors may be able to ensure their child is kept at home" and that "**every child who can be safely cared for at home should be**". We therefore do not expect more than 10% (approximately 35) of our students to need to continue attending school.

The published list of key workers is as follows:

Health & Social Care – the support and specialist staff required to maintain the UK's health & social care sector, including, but not limited to:

- Doctors
- Nurses
- Midwives
- Paramedics
- Social workers
- Other frontline health & social care staff including volunteers

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- Those working as part of the health & social care supply chain e.g. producers and distributors of medicines and medical and personal protective equipment

Education & Childcare

- Nursery & teaching staff
- Social workers
- Specialist education professionals

Key public services

- Those essential to the running of the justice system
- Religious staff
- Charities
- Workers delivering key frontline services
- Those responsible for the management of the deceased
- Journalists and broadcasters providing public service broadcasting

Local & national government

- **Only** those administrative occupations **essential** to the effective delivery of the COVID-19 response
- Essential public services such as the payments of benefits
- Government agencies and arms length bodies

Food & other necessary goods

- Those involved in food production, processing, distribution, sale and delivery
- Those essential to the provision of other key goods e.g. hygienic and veterinary medicines

Public safety & national security

- Police & 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 employees (including support staff)
- National Crime Agency staff
- Those maintaining border security
- Prison and probation staff
- Other national security roles, including those overseas

Transport

- Those keeping the air, water, road and rail passenger and freight transport modes operating during the COVID-19 response
- Those working on transport systems through which supply chains pass

Utilities, communication & financial services

- Essential workers in banks, building societies and financial market infrastructure
- Essential workers in the oil, gas, electricity and water sectors (including sewerage)
- Essential workers in the information technology and data infrastructure sector and primary industry supplies needed to continue during the COVID-19 response
- 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
- Delivery, payments providers and waste disposal sectors.

The message from the government is that social distancing is imperative to our war on coronavirus. **School is closed to all children for the foreseeable future from 3.45 pm tonight.**


If you are a key worker and your children cannot safely be cared for at home, then please complete the Google form as a matter of urgency and return to us by 6.00 pm tonight. If you are a key worker and do not wish to send your child/ren to school, we do not need to hear from you, BUT if circumstances change at any stage, please contact us by email to admin@wensleydaleschool.net.

Only children 'booked in' with us can attend school on any given day. Children cannot appear at the door on an ad-hoc basis; it is absolutely essential this is a coordinated approach and safeguarding remains at the centre of everything we do.

Those parents requesting to send their child/ren to school, individual arrangements will be made with you over the course of the weekend/Monday.

We respectfully ask that Parents/Carers wait for information to be provided and do not telephone/email us unless absolutely essential.

Yours sincerely



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School Business Leader

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