



20th March 2020

Dear Parents / Carers,

Supporting Children of Key Workers whose children are in years 8, 9 and 10 ONLY

The Minister for Education in Northern Ireland, Peter Weir MLA, made a statement on the evening of Thursday 19th March outlining how schools will close from the end of the school day on Friday 20th March, however, will open with skeleton staff on Monday 23rd March to support identified Key Workers.

The ultimate aim still remains to keep the number of children in school to an absolute minimum. We have been asked to facilitate students in school whose parents are critical to the Covid-19 team who would otherwise have no option but to stay at home. Therefore, this would apply to sole parents and families where both parents are key workers.

LIST OF KEY WORKERS AS OUTLINED IN DOCUMENTATION ISSUED TO SCHOOLS ON 19TH MARCH 2020 (MORE DETAIL WILL FOLLOW HERE IN THE COMING DAYS. Please work with us to ensure that schools operate with a limited number of children and staff.

- **Health and Social Care.** This includes doctors, nurses, midwives, paramedics, social workers, home carers and staff required to maintain our health and social care sector.
- **Education and childcare.** This includes nursery and teaching staff, social workers and those specialist education professionals who will remain active during the Covid-19 response.
- **Public safety and national security.** This includes civilians and officers in the police (including key contractors), Fire and Rescue Service, prison service and other national security roles.
- **Transport.** This will include those keeping air, water, road and rail transport modes operating during the Covid-19 response.
- **Utilities and Communication.** This includes staff needed for oil, gas, electricity and water (including sewage) and primary industry supplies, to continue during the Covid-19 response, as well as key staff in telecommunications, post and delivery, services and waste disposal.
- **Food and other necessary goods.** This includes those involved in food production, processing, distribution and sale, as well as those essential to the provision of other key goods (e.g. hygiene, medical etc).
- **Key national and local government** including those administrative occupations essential to the effective delivery of the Covid-19 response.

If you are an identified key worker, as a sole parent or both parents, I would ask you to please make contact with school by 12.00pm on Friday 20th March to inform us if your child will be attending. This must be communicated by e-mail (hbell926@c2kni.net).





Please pay particular attention to the following points:

- School will not be able to operate a “normal” school day.
- If you work part-time we would state that students are only to be in school on working days.
- We are already working with a depleted staff. Parents must only use this provision if absolutely necessary. This is to try and limit the number of students and adults together in a small space in line with recent social distancing guidance.
- Normal opening and closing times will apply.
- Children attending will be required to wear their school uniform.
- When in school students will be facilitated to complete the work that is currently available to all students.

I trust that you find this information useful. I would request that you carefully consider whether you fall into any of the categories above and if making contact tomorrow, regarding the need to avail of this service, that you are open and transparent with us in your request.

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we organise and work to support you in your important roles.

Yours sincerely

Mr P Perry
Principal

