



20th March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Update on provision from Monday 23rd March, 2020

As you are already aware, the Government is asking schools and colleges to remain open where they can to provide care for a limited number of children: children who are vulnerable and children whose parents are critical to the Covid-19 response and cannot be safely cared for at home. Where only one parent/carer is a 'key worker' there is an expectation that the child stays at home with the other parent to ensure the principle and impact of social distancing is maximised. Further guidance was published late last night; the full guidance is at the link below and I would ask that you read this:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers>

It is becoming clear that we may be asked to care for children from other schools that have said that they will not be able to open. Clearly, in this situation we are having to plan in very short timeframes. I will continue to update you via parent portal and the website, some updates may need to come to you over the weekend.

If you think you fall within the critical categories listed, you should have already completed the questionnaire sent earlier this week. You should check with your employer that, based on their business continuity arrangements, your specific role is necessary for the continuation of the essential public service they are providing.

If you have already indicated that your child needs to attend from Monday but this is not now necessary, then please tell us by contacting: jbutler@worcs.tgacademy.org.uk

Please follow these key principles:

1. If it is at all possible for your child to be at home, then they should be.
2. If a child needs specialist support, is vulnerable (an EHCP or assigned social worker) or has both parents who are critical workers, 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.

We will continue to provide safeguarding support during this period of school closure and any concerns should be directed to the following email address during school hours: safeguarding@worcs.tgacademy.org.uk. However, if you have any urgent safeguarding needs please use the support services information which we will circulate at the end of the school day.

Thank you for your continued support and patience during these difficult times.

Yours faithfully,

Mr D. Butler
Principal