



Long Lane Primary School
Long Lane, Tilehurst, Reading, Berkshire, RG31 6YG
Telephone/Fax: 0118 942 7187
www.longlane.w-berks.sch.uk
office@longlane.w-berks.sch.uk
 @LL_Primary

19th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

School Closure and Support for Front Line Staff

The Local Authority have written to schools today letting us know that from Monday 23rd March schools will ***not function as education establishments*** – we have a new role to care for children instead. We are attempting to plan how we can support our community by offering care to children of front line staff so that lives can be protected. We are waiting to hear an announcement from the Cabinet Office but the ***brief*** detail we do have about eligible parents who need to continue to work include;

- NHS Health care workers.
- Fire and Police.
- Those who deliver food to stores, store operators, store staff.

In the meantime, please can I ask that you inform us if you think you **MAY** be in the category and also therefore be needing childcare? Once defined, we will be giving 'permission' for those to attend - no children will be allowed to attend without this permission, sorry. Children with an EHCP (but not siblings), Looked After Children or those deemed vulnerable, i.e having a need through Children's Services, will also be eligible for child care provision.

Once we have the list fully defined by the Government, we will ask you the days and times you will need (I know some health workers may be asked to work longer/more hours so we will plan for this once we know).

In line with the Government plans, we will be providing some food vouchers for those children who are in receipt of the Pupil Premium Grant - not much but every little will help. Those eligible will be contacted separately.

Finally, we do have some families who have both parents working for the NHS or one is a nurse and one is a police officer who of course will be at the top of the list alongside single parents who are in the key worker category. However, if you have one parent in the category whilst the other is allowed to work from home, then we will **not** be able to take you in I am afraid. We still have to remember that we are all needing to stay in our homes and self-isolate or keep our social distance at least. School staff are only providing this service to enable the country to function and everyone please needs to do their bit - please stay at home if you can!

Thank you for your support and for your patience in the meantime.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'P Thorne', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Mr P Thorne
Headteacher