



## HOLMER LAKE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Brookside, Telford, TF3 1LD

Tel: 01952 387580 Fax: 01952 387581

Email: A2153@taw.org.uk

Website: [www.holmerlakeprimary.org.uk](http://www.holmerlakeprimary.org.uk)

Executive Headteacher: Miss Cook

Head of School: Mrs Bishton

Chair of Governors: Mrs Davidson

Dear Parents and Carers,

The Government document 'Coronavirus (COVID-19): maintaining educational provision' was released overnight. The document gives some clarity but raises many operational questions for schools, parents and employers.

It must be noted firstly that **'If it is at all possible for children to be at home, then they should be'**. Clearly the whole point of closing schools, is to limit social contact and prevent the rapid spread of the disease, so we ask you all to think carefully about whether it is essential to send your children in. **'Schools to remain open only for those children who absolutely need to attend'**.

If your work is critical to the COVID-19 response, or you work in one of the critical sectors and you cannot keep your child safe at home, then your children will be prioritised for school. We will be open from 8.40 a.m. until 3.10 p.m. whilst staff levels allow.

Teachers are already planning activities for children that have to attend school and more information will be sent to those parents who qualify later on today. You should have already been updated by your class teacher as to 'Home Learning' options – please see class pages on the website.

The guidance on Key Workers is that "if your work is critical to the COVID-19 response, or you work in one of the critical sectors **listed below**, and you cannot keep your child safe at home then your children will be prioritised for education provision:

*Health and Social Care*

*Education and Childcare*

*Key Public Services*

*Local and National Government*

*Food and other necessary goods*

*Public Safety and national security*

*Transport*

*Utilities, communication and financial services*





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**For full details please follow this**

**link** <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

Clearly, some of these categories are wide-reaching. It is for Headteachers to use their best judgement to determine which parents are eligible when we are approached. Please be patient and understand that we are doing our best and that our decision is final. Remember we are not making the rules we are simply trying our best to follow them.

- 1. We will assess all applications that we have had so far and determine whether they meet the essential criteria – someone from the office will contact you with the outcome today.**
- 2. We will review new applications in view of the Government clarification which was published late last night. These need to be submitted by noon today in order for us to process them. Please use this form** [https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=2s8TOK9SpUy44yMVeXcKuolUmWrPalFip\\_g5DwqvN1UOVZMTzQzSE1UQVE3WUQyUkdCVVBLTUQ2SC4u](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=2s8TOK9SpUy44yMVeXcKuolUmWrPalFip_g5DwqvN1UOVZMTzQzSE1UQVE3WUQyUkdCVVBLTUQ2SC4u)
- 3. It seems likely that next week will be a review stage where parents are asked for additional confirmation from employers. This may result in the offer of places being confirmed or places being withdrawn.**
- 4. The guidance has so many elements that require additional clarification that I anticipate a process of review of decisions taking place throughout at least next week.**

Please be assured that we will work over the coming week to make fair and consistent decisions that match the emerging national guidance and principles. As ever, we are working tirelessly to ensure that children are at the heart of all of our decision making and we thank you for your support and understanding so far.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Bishton  
Head of School

