



## Pensby High School

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Headteacher: Mr K Flanagan

20 March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

### **Key Worker children as of 9.00 am 20 March 2020**

I wrote to early this morning when I couldn't sleep, unaware that the government had rather unhelpfully snuck out their advice in the middle of the night and the advice has changed quite a bit, however, it is perhaps most striking for the inclusion of the following line:

'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.'

As a father of three children, two of whom suffer from asthma, but will have to attend school as key worker children, I am at a loss as to know what is best for my children and I can offer no advice, but simply tell you that we will endeavour to provide child care from Monday.

The guidance in full is here, as is the recommendation to try to keep children at home:  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

**The new advice also makes it clear that only one parent need be a key worker and not two as I previously stated.**

The list provided contains include children who are supported by social care, those with safeguarding and welfare needs, including child in need plans, on child protection plans, 'looked after' children, young carers, disabled children and those with [education, health and care \(EHC\) plans](#):

#### **Health and social care**

This includes but is not limited to doctors, nurses, midwives, paramedics, social workers, care workers, and other frontline health and social care staff including volunteers; the support and specialist staff required to maintain the UK's health and social care sector; those working as part of the health and social care supply chain, including producers and distributors of medicines and medical and personal protective equipment.

#### **Education and childcare**

This includes nursery and teaching staff, social workers and those specialist education professionals who must remain active during the COVID-19 response to deliver this approach.

#### **Key public services**

This includes those essential to the running of the justice system, religious staff, charities and workers delivering key frontline services, those responsible for the management of the deceased, and journalists and broadcasters who are providing public service broadcasting.

#### **Local and national government**

This only includes those administrative occupations essential to the effective delivery of the COVID-19 response or delivering essential public services such as the payment of benefits, including in government agencies and arm's length bodies.

**Food and other necessary goods**

This includes those involved in food production, processing, distribution, sale and delivery as well as those essential to the provision of other key goods (for example hygienic and veterinary medicines).

**Public safety and national security**

This includes police and 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 service employees (including support staff), National Crime Agency staff, those maintaining border security, prison and probation staff and other national security roles, including those overseas.

**Transport**

This includes those who will keep the air, water, road and rail passenger and freight transport modes operating during the COVID-19 response, including those working on transport systems through which supply chains pass.

**Utilities, communication and financial services**

This includes staff needed for essential financial services provision (including but not limited to workers in banks, building societies and financial market infrastructure), the oil, gas, electricity and water sectors (including sewerage), information technology and data infrastructure sector and primary industry supplies to continue during the COVID-19 response, as well as 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 and delivery, payments providers and waste disposal sectors.

If workers think they fall within the critical categories above they should confirm with their employer that, based on their business continuity arrangements, their specific role is necessary for the continuation of this essential public service.

I have had a number of paper returns this morning, thank you. Can I ask that if you feel that you fall under any of these categories and you would like a place for your child to make the return below as soon as is possible. I want school uniform and as much normalcy as possible please, but some form of PE kit and trainers every day. We will work to provide food and we will not make a charge for this to try to take some pressure of you at home, but it will be a much more limited menu I am afraid.

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- Parent 1:
- Name
- Contact number
- Student name(s)
- Job title and organisation
- Line manager's name
- Contact details for employer
- Evidence provided

We will attempt to stay open for the duration, but as from Monday Mr Madden and Mr Rice will not be in school and that leaves Mrs Gauntlett and myself as teaching members of the senior leadership and if for example I cannot attend whilst Mr Madden is away we will need to close until we have more capacity. Equally at this stage numbers are unknown as is our staff capacity going forward and it is likely that members of staff other than teachers will be responsible for caring for your children during this time.

Yours sincerely  


**Mr K Flanagan**  
**Headteacher**