

22 May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

The Wider Opening of School and Ongoing Educational Provision at Fullbrook

You will be aware that now progress has been made in reducing the transmission of coronavirus the government are encouraging all eligible children to attend school (where there are no shielding concerns for the child or their household), even if parents are able to keep their children at home.

The Department for Education have said that from the week commencing 1 June **at the earliest**, secondary schools, should offer some face-to-face support for **year 10 and year 12** students who are due to take key exams next year, alongside priority groups. The government have said they will only make the final decision on whether to press ahead with the wider opening of schools when it reviews the latest scientific evidence on May 28, and that if the evidence does not support the decision to reopen at that time, it will be delayed.

We have begun to plan the logistics of how this may work and to ensure an appropriate risk assessment is in place ready for the wider opening of the school whenever that may be. I want to reassure students, parents/carers and staff that we will only open when we are satisfied that we have adequate protections and systems in place; and that teachers have had sufficient time to prepare to teach effectively given the new arrangements.

Wider opening for Years 10 and 12

To give time to ensure that appropriate safety measures are in place to protect students and staff, wider opening for Year 10 and 12 students will not begin before Monday 8 June when we will phase provision slowly on a part time basis. Face to face provision will be supplemented with online learning.

Students in Years 7, 8 and 9

Students in Years 7, 8 and 9 will continue to work at home using the learning activities set for them by their teachers.

Provision from 1 June 2020 for Vulnerable Students and Students Whose Parents/Carers are Critical Workers

From 1 June vulnerable students and students whose parents/carers are critical workers can come to Fullbrook for supervised study. Since asking people to return to work, the government have updated their list of critical workers. **Many more parents/carers will now qualify** to send their children into school. If you work in a critical area identified by the government as shown on the updated list included with this letter, and want your child to come into school from Monday 1 June 2020 please contact school by emailing info@fullbrook.surrey.sch.uk to let us know by Thursday 28 May. Please provide the following information:

- Student's name and tutor group
- Your name
- Your contact number and email address
- The job you do that qualifies you as a critical worker
- Evidence from your employer that you are a critical worker.

As soon as there is further concrete information I will update you as soon as possible. I hope you have an enjoyable and safe half term.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mrs K Moore', followed by a period.

Mrs K Moore
Principal

Government guidance on Vulnerable students and Critical Workers

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

Vulnerable children and young people

During the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak, for the purposes of continued attendance at educational settings, vulnerable children and young people are defined as those who:

- are assessed as being in need under section 17 of the Children Act 1989, including children who have a child in need plan, a child protection plan or who are a looked-after child
- have an education, health and care (EHC) plan and it is determined, following risk assessment, that their needs can be as safely or more safely met in the educational environment
- have been assessed as otherwise vulnerable by educational providers or local authorities (including children's social care services), and who are therefore in need of continued education provision - this might include children on the edge of receiving support from children's social care services, adopted children, those at risk of becoming NEET ('not in employment, education or training'), those who are young carers and others at the provider and local authority's discretion

Critical workers

Parents whose work is critical to the COVID-19 response include those who work in health and social care and in other key sectors outlined below. Many parents working in these sectors may be able to look after their child at home, but attendance is strongly encouraged.

Please, therefore, also follow these key principles:

1. If a child needs specialist support, is vulnerable or has a parent who is a critical worker, then educational provision will be available for them.
2. 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.
3. Parents must do everything they can to ensure children are not mixing socially outside of school. They must observe the same social distancing principles as adults, as far as possible.
4. Residential special schools, boarding schools and special settings continue to care for children wherever possible.

If your work is critical to the COVID-19 response, or you work in one of the critical sectors listed below, then your children will be prioritised for education provision and are strongly encouraged to attend.

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:

- childcare
- support and teaching staff
- social workers
- 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
- 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 arms 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 outbreak)
- 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
- 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
- waste disposal sectors

If your school is closed, then please contact your local authority, who will seek to redirect you to a local school in your area that your child, or children, can attend.

We are grateful for the work of teachers and workers in educational settings for continuing to provide for the children of the other critical workers of our country. It is an essential part of our national effort to combat this disease.