



Castle Camps C of E (VC) Primary School
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Headteacher: Miss A.E.O'Connor

Tuesday, 24th March 2020

Dear Parent / Carer,

Coronavirus (COVID-19) - Letter to Key Workers requiring School Childcare Support

This letter follows the Government action taken yesterday (23rd March 2020) to restrict all nonessential travel of action and the decision taken on the 20th March 2020 to close all early years' settings, schools and colleges. Both decisions have been taken as part of the Government's response to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) emergency. This is a direct intervention to reduce the spread of the disease and to prevent unnecessary deaths. The Government has directed early years settings, schools and colleges to remain open to provide support to vulnerable children and their families and for people identified as critical to managing the outbreak of the virus.

The Local Authority has asked us to make it clear that school closures are critical to reduce the spread of the virus to a level the NHS can cope with. This is essential to save lives. If a substantial number of children continue to attend school this will unravel this initiative and make this pandemic likely. The Government have also stated that all non-essential travel must be stopped.

Children of Critical Workers

Schools are remaining open only to the children of workers critical to the ongoing management of Covid-19, that are unable to safely stay at home. We need to ensure that the number of children and young people accessing the offer of provision in a setting, school or college is kept to the lowest number possible. Therefore, **even if you have been deemed a critical worker, if your children can remain at home rather than attend school, on some or all days, then they should. Please only use the offer of provision when it is crucial for you to undertake your critical role.**

The list of critical workers can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

If the school feels that your role does not fit the critical worker criteria, you may be asked to verify this or to keep your children at home. If you have a partner who is not a critical worker, you may be questioned as to why they are not able to stay at home as per the Government's guidance. Schools, settings and colleges are open to provide care to enable critical workers to respond to the crucial role you will play in the response to the COVID-19 emergency, but you must also support your school, setting and college and only use this offer of support if you have no alternatives for childcare for your child(ren). Clearly the more children and young people that attend an education setting the wider the risk of spreading the virus grows.

Schools continue to work closely with the Local Authority in order to offer a consistent and safe response to the current crisis. The health and safety of your children and your family is everyone's first priority.



To assist our planning for the next two weeks, please complete the form below and email back to school by Thursday, 26th March, so we have indication of which days you will require childcare support for your child/children. It is our intention to resume this provision after the Easter Holidays, unless otherwise directed by the Local Authority.

Please ensure that you child is dropped off on the front playground at 9am, where a member of staff will be there to greet them, and collected from the back playground at 3:15pm. They will need to wear comfortable clothes suitable for sport, trainers and bring in a packed lunch and water bottle. There will be strict routines regarding handwashing and using equipment.

Thank you for your co-operation at this time.

Alexandra O'Connor

Miss A.E. O'Connor

Headteacher

Key Worker Reply Form:

Please return to the completed form to office@castleamps.cambs.sch.uk by Thursday, 26th March, or hand a completed form to your child to bring into school.

Name of child/children:

1. _____
2. _____

Emergency Contact Numbers:

- 1) Name: _____ Telephone Contact Number: _____
- 2) Name: _____ Telephone Contact Number: _____

Days Required:

	Monday, 23 rd March	Tuesday, 24 th March	Wednesday, 25 th March	Thursday, 26 th March	Friday, 27 th March
Childcare Provision required (Y/N)	N/A	N/A			

	Monday, 30 th March	Tuesday, 31 st March	Wednesday, 1 st April	Thursday, 2 nd April	Friday, 3 rd April
Childcare Provision required (Y/N)					

Signed: _____ PRINT name: _____