

Stoneydelph Primary School

Crowden Road Wilnecote Tamworth B77 4LS

20th March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

The most recent scientific advice on how to further limit the spread of COVID-19 is clear. If children can stay safely at home, they should, to limit the chance of the virus spreading. This is why the government has asked parents to keep their children at home, wherever possible.

Schools are, therefore, being asked to continue to provide care for only a limited number of children children who are vulnerable and children whose parents are critical to the Covid-19 response and cannot be safely cared for at home.

Many parents working in these sectors may be able to ensure their child is kept at home and every child who can be safely cared for at home should be. Children with at least one parent or carer who are identified as critical workers by the government can be prioritised for educational provision.

We are working to strict guidance on how many pupils and staff can be in school at any one time so we will need to know shift / work patterns in order to prioritise and keep numbers at a safe level for pupils and staff.

Parents whose children are attending are asked to follow these key principles in order that pupils and staff

- 1. If it is at all possible for children to be at home, then they should be.
- 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 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.

Critical key workers as defined by the DfE are:

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 distributers 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 Mathematics Mastery









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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 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 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.

Please only use this list for reference NOT the lists on social media or yesterday's news outlets.

If workers think they fall within the critical categories above but are unsure, they should confirm with their employer that, based on their business continuity arrangements, their specific role is necessary for the continuation of this <u>essential public service</u> and forward an email / letter to school confirming this.

The school is open 8.45am to 3.15pm although parents can also select half days. Confirmation of our school Easter holiday provision will be shared on Monday. Please bring your child into school through the main office and use the pedestrian gate next to the vehicle gates.

When contacting school to arrange care, please ensure you have your work pattern for the next few weeks available, these can be updated as often as required by e mail office@stoneydelph.staffs.sch.uk, please share your work rotas for the coming weeks as soon as you know them so that we can update our on-going list. Please either bring in or email beforehand a photo of your work identification (identity badge / contract / wage slip / etc).

If your child / family is currently in isolation, please e-mail us when you are at the end of this period **and** due to return to work to let us know your requirements.

We understand you may be at work today and unable to e-mail until later or over the weekend – this is fine as e mails will be checked again on Monday morning and daily Mon – Fri during term time.

Thank you for your continued support. Kindest regards

Jenny Wallbank Headteacher