



20 March 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We have now received more clarity regarding the government's key worker list. The priority remains to try and further limit the spread of COVID-19 and the scientific advice remains that "the fewer children making the journey to school, and the fewer children in educational settings, the lower the risk that the virus can spread and infect vulnerable individuals in wider society" and a key principle is **"if it is at all possible for children to be at home, then they should be"**.

We are absolutely committed to providing a supervised environment for children of key workers (and vulnerable children). To be clear, however, **there is no requirement for any pupil or student, including those in the key worker categories, to attend school. Indeed, in terms of reducing the risk of the virus spreading, it is preferable to stay at home.**

Our aim for our secondary provision, currently remains to provide a consolidated provision at Maiden Erlegh School Reading, on Crescent Road. Great Hollands Primary School intends to provide for the children on its site.

We need, however, to understand the numbers expected at each venue. We have **updated our surveys** to reflect the new guidance.

Secondary: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/SECupdated>
Great Hollands Primary School: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/GHPUpdated>

**If you have already completed the survey, there is no need to fill it in again.
If you are filling it in today, please can you complete by 6pm on 20 Friday 2020.**

Below is an updated list of key worker categories:

Health & Social Care

- Children of NHS workers and volunteers
- Children of social and care workers
- Children of those who work in the production and distribution of medicines and medical/personal protective equipment.

Education & Childcare

- Children of teachers, nursery workers and school support staff

Key public services

- Children of public service workers where their work is essential to the running of the justice system
- Children of religious staff, charities and workers delivering key frontline services
- Children of those responsible for the management of the deceased
- Children of public service broadcasting journalists and broadcasters

Local & national government

- Children of local and national government only where those occupations are essential to the effective delivery of the COVID-19 response or delivering essential public services such as the payment of benefits.

Food and other necessary goods

- Children of those who work in the production and distribution of food and “key goods” (e.g.: hygiene and veterinary products).

Public safety and national security

- Children of police officers, police support staff and volunteers
- Children of fire and rescue service employees (including support staff)
- Children of Ministry of Defence civilians, contractors and armed forces personnel where they are critical to the delivery of key defence and national security outputs and essential to the response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Children of border security staff.
- Children of prison and probation staff
- Children of individuals in national security roles, including those overseas.

Transport

- Children of those whose work will keep the air, water, road and rail passenger and freight transport modes operating during the COVID-19 response

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.

In all cases, 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.** We may ask you to provide this confirmation.

Other eligible children are:

- Those with Education Health and Care Plans (EHCPs)
- Those who are Looked After
- Those who are disabled
- Those with allocated social workers.

Thank you for your continued support in these matters.

Yours sincerely



Mary Davies
Chief Executive Officer



Jonathon Peck
Chief Financial and Operations Officer