



FEDERATION

The Grinling Gibbons and Lucas Vale Federation
Executive Headteacher: Lesley Ann Jones BA Hons

20-Mar-2020

Dear Parents/Carers

As you know, the school will be closing on Monday until further notice. This is part of the government strategy to reduce the spread of Coronavirus.

The government has asked us remain open only for those children who absolutely need to attend. The school will remain partially open to provide care for a small number of children - children who we have identified as needing extra support including those with EHCP and children whose parents are critical to the Covid-19 response and cannot be cared for at home.

Guidance for parents and carers:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers>

This is an offer to parents and carers and there is no requirement for you to send your child to school if you do not need or wish to do so. Some parents working in the critical sectors will be able to arrange for their child to be cared for safely at home and you should do so if you can. We recognise that this will not always be possible.

If you are a critical worker, you are needed to keep essential services going and we thank you for all the hard work you are doing. We want you to know that, if you need care for your child, the school will be open next week for you between the hours of 8:45-3:15pm. If your child attends breakfast club or wrap around, then they can come in from 8am and picked up before 6pm.

Please remember that you should not rely for childcare upon those who are advised to be in the stringent about social distancing such as grandparents, friends, or family members with underlying conditions.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-social-distancing-and-for-vulnerable-people/guidance-on-social-distancing-for-everyone-in-the-uk-and-protecting-older-people-and-vulnerable-adults>

We have already been in touch to assess who needs care for next week. Some of you have already let us know that you are a critical worker and have made arrangements for Monday. The government issued the complete list of critical workers this morning. Please check and let us know via admin@lucasvale.lewisham.sch.uk if you think you are classed as a critical worker. We will then contact you to confirm that your child can attend on Monday and let you know the arrangements.

If your circumstances change over the weekend (for example, your childcare arrangements fall through- please let us know by email admin@lucasvale.lewisham.sch.uk

Stay well and take care.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Cobblah



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COVID-19 Critical Worker Sectors

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 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.



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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.