



# Chestnut Grove Academy

HEADTEACHER: Mr. Christian Kingsley MA MSc NPQH

20 March 2020

Dear Families,

## Re: Key Worker and Vulnerable Children - COVID-19 (Coronavirus)

As you are aware, the Government has instructed that all schools close with effect from the end of day on Friday 20 March, and has sent advice this morning **asking parents to keep their children at home wherever possible**. Having taken on board all the advice and guidance available to us at this time, and having reviewed our own risk assessment, I cannot stress enough that at this time, **any child is far safer at home than they would be in school**.

The Government is asking that where possible, schools continue to make provision for vulnerable students, those with an Education Health Care Plan, and for those whose parents are key workers critical to the Covid-19 response. We have already started to contact families of vulnerable students and those with an EHCP to provide further support for remote learning.

We are now seeking to identify any families who are considered key workers as per the Government's 'Maintaining Educational Provision' guidelines. The most essential advice is that **'if it is at all possible for children to be at home, then they should be'** to stop the spread of the virus during this pandemic. The guidance also provides a list of jobs as a means of defining 'key workers', and the main categories can be seen below:

- *National Health Service* – frontline, volunteers and supply chain staff
- *Education and Childcare* – nursery and teaching staff, social workers and specialist education professionals
- *Key Public Services* – essential running of the justice system, religious or charitable work delivering key frontline services and those directly linked to the public broadcasting of advice and information
- *Local and national government* (however restricted to those ONLY essential to the delivery of the Covid-19 response or services)
- *Food and necessary goods* – those essential to the provision of food and key medical goods required during the Covid-19 response
- *Public Safety and national security* - Police officers, community support, civilian staff, armed services personnel (again critical to the Covid-19 response), fire and rescue services, national crime agency and prison and probation staff
- *Transport* – staff responsible for keeping the supply chains working during the Covid-19 response
- *Utilities, communication and finance* – any staff needed for the essential service provision during the response

*(For more information please see guidance for schools, colleges and local authorities on maintaining educational provision)*

If you identify as a Key Worker from the list above, please first confirm with your employer that your specific role is necessary for the continuation of the public service, and secondly, consider carefully if you have no other option before requesting education provision. If it is still essential for your child to attend school, please complete the attached form and return by 7am on Monday 23 March:

[keyworker@chestnutgrove.wandsworth.sch.uk](mailto:keyworker@chestnutgrove.wandsworth.sch.uk)

It will be necessary for Key Workers to demonstrate evidence of their role during this time. Evidence can be a short letter on headed paper from your employer or an official work pass or identity card.

We are acutely aware that due to our geographical position in South London, where the virus is spreading at alarming rates, asking students and staff to come to Chestnut Grove Academy puts them at extremely high risk. It is now inevitable that this situation will continue to worsen.

I would like to reassure you that we remain committed to any family who faces insurmountable challenges. However, any provision we can offer in school will be skeletal and subject to daily review. We will contact those families directly as soon as possible to provide further guidance.

Yours faithfully,



Christian Kingsley  
Headteacher

Chestnut Grove – A Creative Learning Community

<b>Key Worker Data Collection Information</b>
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Child's Name:	
Year and tutor group	
Name of Parent/Carer 1	
Telephone Number	
E-mail address	
Key Worker Role	
Evidence I will be able to provide:	

Please complete if necessary:

Name of Parent/Carer 2	
Key Worker Role	
Telephone Number	
E-mail address	
Evidence I will be able to provide:	

Please return as soon as possible, and no later than 7am on Monday 23 March via e-mail to [keyworker@chestnutgrove.wandsworth.sch.uk](mailto:keyworker@chestnutgrove.wandsworth.sch.uk).