

GREENFIELDS

Community Primary School,
Nursery & Pre-School



North Tyneside Council

Address: Taylor Avenue, Wideopen, Newcastle upon Tyne. NE13 6NB

Telephone: 0191 643 2801

e-mail: office@greenfieldscps.org.uk

Headteacher: Mrs L Taylor B.Ed (Hons) NPQH

Friday 20th March 2020

FIGHTING CORONAVIRUS ~ PROTECTING THE VULNERABLE AND OUR NHS

Dear Parent / Carer,

Today, our school is closing for the vast majority of children until further notice.

The government has stated that from Monday 23rd March:

- **If it is at all possible for children to be at home, then they should be.**
- **Schools as they normally run are closed and they will be providing childcare.**
- **Every child who can be safely cared for at home should be at home.**
- **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.**

Schools can only open if it is safe to do so and it is an essential part of our national effort to combat this disease.

Parents whose work is critical to the COVID-19 response include those who work in health and social care and in other key sectors outlined below. However, **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.**

Our school will **only** be open for children who have:

1. an Education Health & Care Plan
2. a Social Worker
3. a parent whose work is critical to the COVID-19 response, in one of the critical sectors listed below, **and is not able to ensure their child is kept safely at home**

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 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 provision of other key goods (e.g. 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.

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.

If your child is one of the children who will be attending next week and they usually have a free school meal, they will be provided with a free packed lunch. If your child is not eligible for a free school meal, they will need to bring a packed lunch from home as the school kitchen also closes today.

All children attending school next week should wear their school uniform as usual.

Please ensure your contact details are current, as we need to monitor the situation on a daily basis for staff or children who are ill.

If you are a key worker and if your school is closed, then please [contact your local authority](#), who will seek to redirect you to a school in your area that your child, or children, can attend.

Kind Regards

Linda Taylor
Headteacher