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Update about key worker/vulnerable children group

To all Parents/Carers,

Now the Government has announced that Y2, Y3, Y4 and Y5 will not be returning to school before September, alongside further easing of lockdown measures, we need to review the provision for our key worker/vulnerable children group.

1. Why do we have to review this provision?

As the lockdown measures continue to ease and parents/carers change their minds about their children coming to school, we are expecting the number of children who are eligible to attend this group to increase.

2. What is the Government saying?

The Government is currently saying:

*'Now that we have made progress in reducing the transmission of coronavirus **we are strongly encouraging all eligible key worker or vulnerable children to attend settings (where there are no shielding concerns for the child or their household), even if parents are able to keep their children at home.'***

3. Which key worker children are eligible?

If your work is critical to the COVID-19 response, or you work in one of the critical sectors listed [here](#), then your children are strongly encouraged to attend.

4. Which vulnerable children are eligible?

This list of vulnerable children eligible to attend remains unchanged. Children who:

- are assessed as being in need under section 17 of the Children Act 1989, including children who have a child in need plan, a child protection plan or who are a looked-after child
- have an education, health and care (EHC) plan and it is determined, following risk assessment, that their needs can be as safely or more safely met in the educational environment
- have been assessed as otherwise vulnerable by educational providers or local authorities (including children's social care services), and who are therefore in need of continued education provision - this might include children on the edge of receiving support from children's social care services, adopted children, those at risk of becoming NEET ('not in employment, education or training'), those who are young carers and others at the provider and local authority's discretion

If your child falls into one or more of the categories above, then we strongly advise that they attend.

What next?

- Should your child be eligible we need to know if you are planning to accept a place within our key worker/vulnerable children provision before the end of the Summer term.
- Please can you let the Office know (admin@markeaton.derby.sch.uk) before Monday 15th June at 12:00pm and be prepared to provide evidence of your occupation. Once all this information has been received we will look to offer you a place from Monday 22nd June.

*Please be aware, if our numbers grow significantly and we do not have the appropriate number of staff to support this increase then we may have to consider putting a limit on the number of children who can attend. We will let you know as soon as possible if this has to happen.

I know that this is a lot of information to take in and it can get quite confusing but it is important to remember that there is now a clear emphasis from the Government and Markeaton that all eligible children, as detailed in this letter, attend school. If your child is eligible and you are still choosing not to send your child in, then we must be made aware of these reasons.

If you have any concerns, then please give me a ring or send me an email.

Best wishes and take care,

Mr I. Johnson