

# Hele's School

*A great place to learn. A great place to grow.*



Tuesday 5 December, 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND ACTION REQUIRED FROM ALL KEY WORKERS BY THURSDAY 7TH JANUARY, 9AM PLEASE.**

Following the Prime Minister's announcement last night that the country is to enter another period of national lockdown, **PARENTS HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED TO KEEP CHILDREN AT HOME, WHEREVER POSSIBLE**, and schools have been told to remain open ONLY for those children who ABSOLUTELY need to attend.

The aim, as previously, is to keep the numbers of children coming into schools to an absolute minimum. However, there is a recognition that parents who fulfil a role in key services MAY require childcare and schools will remain open for as long as possible and is safe to, to ensure some onsite provision for these families.

If your work is critical to the COVID-19 response, or you work in one of the critical sectors listed at the end of this letter, **and you cannot keep your child safe at home** then your children will be prioritised for Supervised Remote Learning in school. This provision will be the same as the provision for children at home, with children following their normal timetable of lessons on Microsoft Teams, but will provide the additional essential childcare some families may need.

## ACTION REQUIRED PLEASE:

**1) If you think you fall within the critical categories, it is essential that you use the link on the form below to notify us as a school, even if you do not intend to use any on-site provision for your child. By completing the survey, you will have access to this provision should you need it in the future, and we can ensure we can plan for all families who may need us. We appreciate that many of you have completed this information previously, but as this was almost one year ago, with students having started and left the school in this time, it is vital we hold up to date information for ALL families. Many of you have also been in touch individually with staff to provide your Key Worker status, however this all now needs to be held centrally for this period of school closure. **PLEASE COMPLETE THIS NOW IF YOU ARE A KEY WORKER.****

**2) Please respect the fact that we will do all we can to ensure provision but we will undoubtedly find this increasingly difficult as all teachers deliver remote learning in line with their timetables and so our availability of staff reduces significantly over coming days/weeks - for that reason we appreciate your support and understanding in asking you to send children only where **absolutely necessary**. To allow us to plan for provision from Monday onwards, **please use the survey link below to indicate any requirements for Supervised Remote Learning for your child from Monday 11th January.****

**SURVEY LINK: <https://bit.ly/38eZg4n>**

**We appreciate you may not yet have plans in place and these may be subject to change, but a prompt reply to enable us to plan as far as possible is very much appreciated. I have set a **deadline of Thursday 7th January at 9am** for families to complete this survey. Please note, **failure to register may well mean we cannot accommodate any later requests so please do act now.****

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**Principal: Justine Mason**

Seymour Road, Plympton, Plymouth, Devon PL7 4LT

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email: [heles.school@plymouth.gov.uk](mailto:heles.school@plymouth.gov.uk) website: [www.heles.plymouth.sch.uk](http://www.heles.plymouth.sch.uk)

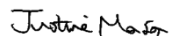
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If you have any queries regarding Key Worker provision, please contact Emma Clapham, Assistant Principal, on [clapham@heles.plymouth.sch.uk](mailto:clapham@heles.plymouth.sch.uk).

I will keep in touch with any key updates via email, and ensure key documents and communications are also posted on the School website for completeness. Please be assured that our staff will continue to work hard throughout this period of uncertainty to offer you as much support as possible and to ensure a high-quality learning experience for our young people.

Kindest regards,



Justine Mason

**Principal**

**IMPORTANT: Government definition of Key Workers**

**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 nursery 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.

**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.

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