



Willow Lane Community Primary School

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Friday 8th January 2021

Dear Mums, Dads and Carers,

RE: Update regarding Critical/Key Worker and Vulnerable places in school.

You will be aware from the press that the number of school places being requested is higher than during the previous lockdown and is increasing. Whilst schools, including ours, are doing their best to accommodate all requests, this has to be balanced against a duty to operate safely in line with our risk assessment.

Please consider these key messages.

- Limiting attendance does not mean that school has become significantly less safe. This is part of a reduction in overall social contacts in our community.
- A key aim of the lockdown is to minimise social contacts. School places should only be used if necessary.
- Only Vulnerable children and children of Critical Workers can currently attend school.
- **Even though an occupation may fall under a 'critical worker' category, the role should be 'critical to the coronavirus (COVID-19) and EU transition response'.**
- Critical Worker places are only available on the days when parents are at work.
- Parents and carers who are critical workers should keep their children at home if they can.

This letter is to inform you that should the pupil numbers become too great for a bubble then the following criteria for places will be applied:

- Vulnerable children then...
- Children where both parents are critical workers or children with single parents who are critical workers then...
- Children where only one of two parents is a critical worker.
- Should further prioritisation be required then children of NHS, Emergency Services etc will take priority. (Proof of ID/role may be requested in this situation).

The responsibility for all of us is to reduce the spread of this pandemic through person-to-person contact in school. This is to reduce any potential spread of COVID to other children, staff and the wider community. The message is very clear, stay at home or work from home if at all possible.

Thank you for your continued support,

Mel MacKinnon

Mel MacKinnon HEADTEACHER

