



Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs B. Reilly-O'Donnell

Wednesday 25th March 2020

URGENT: RELOCATION OF EMERGENCY CHILDCARE PROVISION

Dear Parents and Carers,

In response to the rapidly changing needs of our community we are working with St Joseph's Catholic School, Washington Village and St John Boste Catholic Primary, Oxclose, to maintain support for the children of critical workers through a hub approach. As anticipated, we are struggling with staffing as colleagues adhere to the stringent requirements for self-isolation and the protection of vulnerable groups. The hub approach will allow us to pool resources and therefore be able to sustain the childcare provision for as long as possible.

I appreciate that this is not ideal, and that it will be strange for our pupils who have to attend a different setting; however there will be Our Lady Queen of Peace staff at which ever site is being used, to look after our Our Lady Queen of Peace children and provide them with ongoing care and reassurance. There will of course be staff from both other schools present too. For the first week the children will be asked to attend St Joseph's Primary school in Washington. We will continuously review and amend provision as is required in response to the circumstances at any given time.

I would like to stress that this provision is only for children of critical workers where other arrangements cannot be made. As the Government guidelines state:

It is important to underline that schools remain safe places for children. But the fewer children making the journey to school, and the fewer children in educational settings, the lower the risk that the virus can spread and infect vulnerable individuals in wider society.

and

Many parents working in these sectors will be able to ensure their child is kept at home. And every child who can be safely cared for at home should be, to limit the chance of the virus spreading.

Guidance for schools about temporarily closing; Published 22 March 2020

In families where only one parent is a critical worker it is only right that every effort should be made for the other parent to care for their child, to minimise the numbers coming to school as far as possible. Critical workers who can work from home should also do this; where there is ambiguity we may ask for verification from employers to explain why a role a critical and why it cannot be carried out from home.

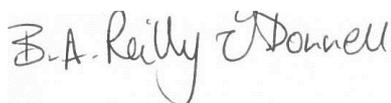
Stringent hygiene and social distancing measures will be put in place at whichever setting is being used to reduce the risk of transmission of the coronavirus between children and also our staff.



In the first instance we will need to be informed of which children who are currently on our key worker list will need to access the emergency hub provision from next week. Please let us know via email: admin@olqoprprimary.org.uk as soon as possible. Once we have this confirmed via email we will be able to send you by return further information regarding routines and expectations, registration information for pupils etc.

I would like to end by thanking you all for your support, patience and understanding through this challenging and unprecedented time, and look forward to the time when we can re-open Our Lady Queen of Peace to all our pupils.

With kindest regards

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "B.A. Reilly O'Donnell". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'B' and 'A'.

B A Reilly-O'Donnell
Head Teacher