Tuesday 5th January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

**Re: Booking a key worker school place from Wednesday 6th January 2021**

As you will be aware, we have now been instructed to move our learning provision to online for almost all children from Wednesday 6th January 2021. The Prime Minister indicated in his recent announcement that this arrangement will be in place until at least February half-term.

As advised by the government, we will do all that we can to stay open for the children of key workers (e.g. NHS staff, police, others in frontline services) and vulnerable children. A full list of key worker jobs can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision#critical-workers>

Waterton schools can offer places to single-parent key worker families **OR** families where both parents are key workers **OR** families where one parent is a key worker and the other parent cannot work from home**.** If you are a key worker, we ask that you consider the care that you are able to provide at home without having to call on a potentially vulnerable wider support network. We also ask that you look at your working patterns to see when you **essentially** need school provision. Please be aware that evidence of key worker status and, where relevant, evidence that a second parent cannot work from home will be required.

Please consider the following before requesting a school place for your child:

1. If it is at all possible for children to be at home, then they should be.
2. If a child needs specialist support, is vulnerable or has a parent who is a critical worker, then educational provision will be available for them.
3. 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.

**All other children will need to stay at home, you must not send your child into school unless allocated a school place. School places at this time will only be allocated to children of critical key workers and those who are vulnerable. Schools will contact the families of vulnerable children directly based on the government criteria.**

***Existing registered critical key workers***

If you are already registered with school to access key worker provision (i.e. your child was attending school during the initial national lockdown)then please complete the attached form to indicate your current requirements. If the school has previously seen evidence of your key worker role you will not need to resubmit this. Please return this form to the school office ([leebriggadmin@watertonacademytrust.org).](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5CEmma%5CAppData%5CLocal%5CMicrosoft%5CWindows%5CINetCache%5CContent.Outlook%5CH8NGJEVM%5Cleebriggadmin%40watertonacademytrust.org%29)

***New critical key worker registration***

If you are registering as a key worker for the first time, please complete the attached form and return to the school office ([leebriggadmin@watertonacademytrust.org).](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5CEmma%5CAppData%5CLocal%5CMicrosoft%5CWindows%5CINetCache%5CContent.Outlook%5CH8NGJEVM%5Cleebriggadmin%40watertonacademytrust.org%29)

Parents who are offered a place will be required to book required sessions directly with the school office, no later than the Wednesday of the week before. Details of how to do this will be communicated to you by your school.

We appreciate your continued patience and support as we deal with this ever-changing situation. We understand that this latest news will have an impact on you and your family and it’s far from ideal, but we’ll continue to keep in touch with any updates as the situation develops.

Yours sincerely



Mr. D Dickinson OBE

CEO, Waterton Academy Trust

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name of Pupil**  |  |
| **Year Group**  |  |
| **Reason For Eligibility (Please tick)**  |
| ☐ Vulnerable Child  | *All details are already available to the academy (pupil with EHCP and/or social worker allocation).*  |
|  | Parent/Carer 1 | Parent/Carer 2 |
| ☐ Key Worker | ☐ Key Worker  |
| What is your role? |   |   |
| Who is your employer?  |  |  |
| Evidence notes | Parents/carers must provide evidence via a picture, scan or photocopy. Typical examples of evidence of role are warrant cards, NHS cards or payslips which show the name of the employer.  | Parents/carers must provide evidence via a picture, scan or photocopy. Typical examples of evidence of role are warrant cards, NHS cards or payslips which show the name of the employer.  |
| Confirmtion of evidence seen *(school to complete)* |  |  |
| **Parental Declaration for ‘Key Workers’ – please only tick one option in each section**  |
|  | **Parent/Carer 1** | **Parent/Carer 2** |
| I am a full-time key worker (as set out in the Government guidelines) - or,  |  |  |
| I am a part-time key worker (as set out in the Government guidelines) - or,  |  |  |
| I am a key worker (as set out in the Government guidelines) but will only need emergency care if called upon by my employer.  |  |  |
| In pursuing emergency care provision, I can confirm that there are no other adults who are at home, or who can work from home - or,  |  |  |
| In pursuing emergency care provision, I can confirm that there is no possibility that my child can remain at home safely. |  |  |
| I understand that my child’s behaviour must be commensurate with the expectations of the school, and that the academy may where necessary apply sanctions for poor behaviour in line with the behaviour policy. |  |  |
| I understand and accept that in seeking emergency care provision, the school is not in a position to ensure the same social distancing/isolation arrangements that would be available in the home. |  |  |
| **Trust Disclaimer**  |
| The school has the right to withdraw provision for parents/carers who do not meet the eligibility criteria, and who do not satisfactorily complete the declaration requirements. In order to safeguard all pupils and staff, and in line with government legislation, the school has the right to request that pupils remain at home if they are displaying any potential symptoms that may relate to the virus.  |
| **Parent/Carer 1 Signature**  |   | **Date** |  |
| **Parent/Carer 2 Signature** |  | **Date** |  |