

Sunday 22nd March 2020

Dear Parents,

Child Care for Critical Key Workers

The situation is changing daily and I realise that the family work situation may have changed already for a number of families that requested a child care place on Friday.

The message from the Education Minister is clear:



The child care provision at Woodlands is ONLY for key workers directly linked to COVID-19 response.

It is not school, it is child care for critical key workers.

Currently, many businesses are closing and staff are being asked to work from home. If there is someone at home, who is no longer required to travel to their place of work and is able to work at home, children should be kept at home and cared for by them.

If you have been placed on a work rota (such as education staff) then it is expected that you care for your children when you are at home.

Your children can attend Woodlands whilst you are in work, this may be odd days or half days.

The message is clear – keep your children at home to keep your family safe.

Please respect and help our staff to undertake self-isolation to keep them safe.

At Woodlands, a significant number of staff have had to go into self-isolation due to underlying health needs or because of signs of illness in the family, this significantly reduces our capacity to care for children.

If our capacity continues to fall then we shall have to prioritise which children we can care for, such as the children of NHS workers.

Please contact the school if your situation has changed and your needs have changed. postbox@woodlands.walsall.sch.uk

All families that will continue to need child care will need to provide evidence from employers that their work is directly linked to COVID-19. Please request this from your employers and bring into school, or please provide contact details and we shall contact them on your behalf.

We aim to be there to support our COVID-19 response key workers, please be reassured that we shall do all we can to support our families that need the child care.

Yours sincerely

T G Newton

Headteacher