

Dear Staff, Parents and Carers,

19 March 2020 - Statement update from Nexus Education Schools Trust (NEST)

The Government has announced that schools will **close at the end of Friday until further notice, for the majority of pupils.**

As advised by the government, and in the first instance, we will be keeping all of our schools open for the children of **Key Workers** and **vulnerable pupils who have Education Health Care Plans and those with an assigned Social Worker.** The initial Government statement identified Key Workers as:-

- NHS Staff
- Ambulance Service
- Police Service
- Fire Service
- Armed Forces
- Care Workers for the elderly
- Delivery Drivers

The exact Key Worker criteria has yet to be announced by Government, however, we have added the children of delivery drivers to our survey in line with the Government announcement made last night. We are aware that many of our parents work for the NHS and front line services and will need child care to allow them to continue their vital work.

All of the children, whether at home or at school, will be asked to complete their home learning activities. Currently, we cannot guarantee the number of staff who will be able to work to provide care and supervision on site. We are working hard to assess the needs of parents and the number of children for whom we need to provide key worker and vulnerable pupil support. **Initially, on Monday, we will open all our schools. Going forward, we will nominate hub schools across the Trust for this provision, based on pupils and staff numbers.** Our provision across NEST will be reviewed continuously.

It is imperative that parents let us know via the Survey Monkey and /or the hard copy attached to this letter, whether they need to make use of this potential offer to Key Workers and families of with vulnerable children.

We will continue to provide home learning for those children not in school. Your child's school would have sent a separate letter with home learning information and you will continue to receive information when this is updated.

The Government has advised that no exams or tests will be held this academic year.



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We are working with our caterers to ensure that there is provision for pupils who are eligible for Free School Meals and are **not in School** during the closure period. This does not include Infant Universal Free School Meals. Further details will be provided in due course.

We appreciate your continued patience as we deal with this ever changing situation. We understand that this latest news will have an impact on you and your family. We will continue to keep in touch with any updates as the situation develops.

The health advice reminds us about social distancing. The measures put in place for schools aim to suppress and mitigate the transmission of the virus. We, as a Trust, will comply with guidance to limit the number of people travelling unnecessarily and protect the welfare of our staff.

Thank you again for your continued support and for working with us at this difficult time.

Yours sincerely

Paula Farrow

CEO NEST

Latest Government information

16 March Updates on Coronavirus: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

19th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Key Workers

Key Workers, if you are unable to complete the Survey Monkey sent out yesterday, please complete the hard copy below and return this to your child's school. If you have already completed the Survey Monkey, you do not need to complete this form.

1) Do you work in any of the following front-line services? (Please tick)

- Blue light Services
- Health provision including care
- Social work
- Delivery drivers
- Other that you feel is a Key Worker role

2) What is your job title?

3) Are you able to access child care? Schools may have limited capacity in terms of staffing so please consider if you can care for your children at home.

- Yes
- No

4) Which school do/does your child/ren attend?

5) Your name and contact details

Thank you for your continued support of our schools.

Paula Farrow
CEO