

Dear Staff, Parents and Carers,

Statement update from Nexus Education Schools Trust (NEST) - March 20th 2020

Last night the Government published the Key Worker list for those people whose role may be critical to the fighting the spread of Coronavirus.

The guidance is very clear **that schools should be closed to the majority of pupils from Friday 21st March** and only provide a care service for those who have **no other options of childcare**. The guidance states:-

'Parents whose work is critical to the COVID-19 response include those who work in health and social care and in other key sectors. Many parents working in these sectors may be able to ensure their child is kept at home. And every child who can be safely cared for at home should be.'

All NEST schools will remain open initially. However, our school settings are also under the same pressure as other organisations and have limited staff availability due to health risks, pressures of child care, illness and self-isolation cycles. This includes our catering and cleaning services. Schools therefore will be running with a skeleton staffing. The guidance states:-

"It is important to underline that schools, colleges and other educational establishments 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."

We have previously asked you to notify us, through Survey Monkey, to inform us if you are a Key Worker and cannot provide your own childcare. The Government Key Worker list has now been expanded. **If you have NOT already completed the Survey Monkey and you meet the Government criteria, please complete the updated version by clicking the link below.** The survey will close at **1:00 pm:-**

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/RRZCMCD>

Families whose children are eligible to attend school on Monday will receive an email confirmation before Monday morning. Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully

Paula Farrow
CEO NEST

Latest Government information 20 March Updates on Coronavirus:
<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>