



JBO/KGI

20 March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you will be aware, the government have announced that all schools will close. At TEMA, this means the academy will close for all students at 3pm Friday 20th March with the exception of those students who are classed as vulnerable and those who are the children of key workers. Late last night, the government announced the list of keyworkers. However, we know that many families have made their own arrangements for students to be looked after as the government has stressed that the main aim is to minimise the number of students travelling to and from schools.

If you are struggling to support child care arrangements for students, particularly those who are below 13, who can not be left alone and are a key worker, can you please make contact with the academy today at: keyworker@temac.co.uk and state you child's name and date of birth, details of both parent/carers' current roles and the days you both work so that we can add students to the register for next week. You will need to provide a copy of your work pass as a form of identification. If this information could be sent through to the academy by 3pm it will greatly help us to plan our provision as we have a number of key staff who are currently absent from the academy.

If you are in a period of self isolation, but will require provision once the period is over for your family, please email us and indicate that you would like provision after the isolation period using the address above.

The government, though clear on what is classed as a key worker, have also provided some useful principles to support the process of organising child care, with a key one being as follows; "If it is at all possible for children to be at home, they should be".

Please see the list below:

Health and social care

- Frontline health and social care staff such as doctors, nurses, midwives, paramedics, as well as support and specialist staff in the health and social care sector. In addition it includes those working in supply chains including producers and distributors of medicines and personal protective equipment.

Education and childcare

- Nursery, teaching staff and social workers.

Key public services

- Those required to run the justice system, religious staff, as well as those responsible for managing the deceased, and journalists providing public service broadcasting.

Local and national government

- Administrative occupations essential to the effective delivery of the Covid-19 response or delivering essential public services, including payment of benefits.

Food and other necessary goods

- Those involved in the production, processing, distribution, sale and delivery of food.

Public safety and national security

- Police, support staff, Ministry of Defence civilian staff and armed forces personnel, fire and rescue staff, and those responsible for border security, prisons and probation.

Transport

- Those who will keep air, water, road and rail passenger and freight transport modes operating during the Covid-19 response.

Utilities, communication and financial services

- Staff required to keep oil, gas, electricity, water and sewerage operations running. Staff in the civil nuclear, chemical and telecommunications sectors. Those in postal services and those working to provide essential financial services.

As a school, we have to consider a range of issues as part of our risk assessment. One key factor that we have needed to consider is the number of pupils we can cater for, given that there is still a responsibility for everyone to ensure that "children are not mixing socially in a way that continues to spread the virus. Children should observe the same social distancing principles as adults" (DfE guidance re. Key workers). Furthermore, given that we have a duty of care and responsibility to our staff, we must also consider how we can provide skeleton staffing so as to reduce the risk of any virus spreading within our staff body, especially as they are vital to the success of any ongoing provision offered by us.

Our aim is to support all our families and keep the academy open for those who are most in need during this very difficult time. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our parents and carers at this difficult time.

We will also be communicating with families regularly through this uncertain period of time with ways that we can support our community.

Yours sincerely,



Ms J Bowen
Academy Headteacher