



# MONKWICK INFANT SCHOOL and NURSERY

Monkwick Infant School and Nursery, School Road, Colchester, Essex, CO2 8NN  
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Headteacher: Claire Holmes



20 March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you are aware from today the school will be closed for all but a small proportion of pupils; those who are children of key workers and those who have been identified as vulnerable. I am writing to give further information for families that fall into the category of key workers.

We will be contacting families of vulnerable children and those with an EHCP separately.

The Government has finally produced a critical worker list and the following document to guide parents regarding school closures:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers>

The list is far more extensive than expected and it is clear that schools would not be able to accommodate the children of all parents that fall in to these categories should they decide to send them in. The key point to note from the Government is:

**‘Many parents working in these critical sectors may be able to ensure their child is kept at home. Every child who can be safely cared for at home should be. This is an offer to parents and carers and there is no requirement for parents and carers to send their children to school if they do not need or wish to do so.’**

Currently, we are working with a much-reduced number of staff and over the coming weeks I suspect that this could be reduced further. I am so grateful to all of my staff for their willingness to help at this difficult time. They themselves have now been classed as critical workers and everyone who is fit enough to work will support their fellow key workers.

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The clear advice from Government is that we need to increase social distancing and we will therefore have to limit the numbers we can admit and prioritise according to need. All pupils attending school will be following the same work that will be sent home to all pupils from Monday.

We therefore ask you to email or call back by return to let the school know if you require your child to be in school from next week onwards. Forms will be distributed to those parents who respond in order that we can allocate places. We will aim to allocate all places by Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2020. Until then please only send your child into school if you are a key frontline worker (health, social care, emergency services and education only).

Pupils attending school will not be required to wear school uniform until the school fully reopens to all pupils.

Thank you for your patience and support

Yours sincerely  
Mrs C N Holmes