

31st March 2020

To parents with 'critical worker' status

Dear Parents,

I hope this letter finds you and your loved ones safe and well.

Many thanks for completing the recent questionnaire, we are now contacting you with details of our Critical Worker Provision. If your requirements have changed from your original request, please contact the School Office to notify them of any changes (tps-office@tauntonschool.co.uk).

We are pleased to be able to provide care for the children of those identified by the Government as Key Workers from 8.00am – 5.00pm, Monday - Friday, commencing on Wednesday 15th April 2020. Please note that schools can only open for those children who 'absolutely need to attend'. Pupils should only come into school as a last resort because it is not possible for you to carry out your critical work and keep the children safe at home.

By booking a place for your child via our online system <https://www.socscms.com/login/2705/parent> (This is the same system we use for signing your child up to our After School Clubs programme) you are confirming the following:

- you and your family have observed social distancing (as laid out by the Government guidelines)
- no one in your household has any of the signs of Covid-19
- you have taken your child's temperature before coming in each day
- you will provide emergency contact numbers for each day and will be able to come and collect your child in the event of them becoming unwell.

We must make it clear that this will not be a normal school day; pupils will spend their time accessing their online lessons and completing work remotely and the role of staff will be a supervisory one. The school is closed to most staff and as such, we are not able to offer supervision outside of 8.00am – 5.00pm.

Medical care will be available and all staff are first aid trained. We have asked that you provide contact numbers in case of an emergency or if your child develops signs of Covid-19. In the event of the latter, the school will call parents and the child will be placed in isolation immediately and supervised whilst we wait for parents to arrive. The child cannot then return to school and must isolate for 7 days. Children and staff who came into contact with the pupil are required to isolate for 14 days.

The 8.00am to 17.00pm provision will take place in some of the TPS classrooms but please may we ask that parents do not come into the building and drop off at the TPS Parents Waiting Area by the drop off zone, where staff will be waiting. Please arrive with your child between 8.00am to 8.20am. Children will be taken from the front entrance into the school, where they will be asked to wash their hands and have their temperature taken. They will then be taken to a classroom by a member of staff. Children will be brought back to the entrance at 5.00pm (or earlier if agreed). Pupils will be brought out to you. Parents must not come into the building.

Children will work in very small groups to allow for social distancing. We must follow the social distancing rules at all times including break and lunch times, therefore pupils will not be able to engage in close contact with each other.

At all times, we will try very hard to minimise risk to both pupils and staff. With this in mind, some staff may be wearing masks and/or gloves.

We ask please that pupils bring in their own snacks and packed lunch each day. You may wish your child to bring in their own hand held device or laptop in order to minimise contact with school equipment. The school will endeavour to provide devices but we cannot guarantee computers will be available in school, as many have been repurposed to allow staff to deliver remote lessons and to continue to follow government guidelines and work from home.

We realise that this is very different to the usual school day at TPS but we need to adhere to government guidelines in order to keep everyone on site as safe as possible.

I would like to finish by extending the heartfelt thanks of our school community for all that you are doing in the current climate. We hope that this provision provides you with assistance and peace of mind

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have additional queries or concerns in the meantime.

With best wishes,
Yours sincerely,

Joanna Hall-Tomkin
Assistant Head Pastoral