

MANOR

CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY, YORK

Established 1812 • Principal: Mr Simon Barber, MA



20th March 2020

Dear parents and carers,

Maintaining educational provision for key workers

We are committed to supporting the directive set out by the Government regarding care for a limited number of children who are vulnerable or whose parents do jobs considered critical to the Covid-19 response. The Government has asked parents to keep their children at home, wherever possible, and asked schools to remain open only for those children who **absolutely need to attend**.

The Government's medical advice is very clear, social distancing is by far the best way to protect each other. The best way to protect your children is for them to be at home and isolated from other young people. The request from Government to provide emergency educational cover is for exceptional cases where parents are involved in frontline activity. If another parent is able to cover then this should be the norm, taking time off if they are not key workers themselves.

Young people and children who are being stood down from school should not be getting together outside the home and wandering the streets. Younger children should not be placed in groupings that would defeat the principles of social distancing.

Schools are, therefore, being asked to continue to provide care for a strictly limited number of children. You may consider that young people (aged 15 and above) maybe responsible enough to be at home social distancing to allow you to undertake employment. However, this would need to be your decision in these extraordinary times.

Parents whose work is critical to the COVID-19 response include those who work in health and social care and in other key sectors outlined below. **Every child who can be safely cared for at home should be.** Please follow the guidelines relating to childcare, to minimise the risk of exposure to adults with underlying health conditions or elderly relatives.

The key principles are:

1. **If it is at all possible for children to be at home, then they should be.**
2. If a child needs specialist support, is vulnerable or has a parent who is a critical worker, then educational provision will be available for them.
3. Parents should not rely for childcare upon those who are advised to be in the stringent social distancing category such as elderly relatives or family members with underlying conditions.

A list of critical works is defined below:

Manor Church of England Academy
Millfield Lane, Nether Poppleton, York YO26 6PA
Tel: 01904 798722 Fax: 01904 782902

Email: hello@mce.hlt.academy

www.manoracademy.org

Hope Learning Trust York

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www.hopelearningtrust.org

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Registered office: Rawcliffe Drive, Clifton, York, YO30 6ZS.



- Health and Social Care
- Education and Child Care
- Key Public Service
- Local and National Government (linked to COVID-19)
- Food Supplies
- Public Safety and National Security
- Transport
- Utilities, Communication and Finance
- Key Workers
- Health Care
- Journalist and Broadcasters
- Religious Staff, Charities and Workers delivering frontline services

Please complete online survey available on the school's website as soon as possible or click on the link below if you haven't already told us you want to access this provision.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf3yfJmS4YZfkPcSlz9zGuuY4O7-GO_RYNP4za9pnz79nh-6g/viewform?usp=sf_link

Yours sincerely,

Mr. S. Barber
Principal