



HIGH HESKET C of E SCHOOL (VC)

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Friday 20th March 2020

Dear Parents,

I am writing with further clarification relating to the information sent through regarding childcare for key workers, particularly as we are receiving a number of queries. The situation is evolving quickly and we are receiving regular updates. There are a few points I need to ensure are passed on:

1. Childcare is only for those who have absolutely no other alternative and are for key worker families or children with an EHCP only. Please remember that if a child can be cared for at home they should be, and they only need to come in on the days when their parent is actually working/on shift.
2. As requested by the Local Authority, parents who are accessing the childcare will need to provide evidence of their current employment as a key worker.
3. I am afraid that childcare will only be available whilst we have the staffing and resources to do so and we will be risk assessing this on a daily basis. Should the safety of our pupils and staff be compromised due to low staffing or other reasons, we will need to close and children may be directed to another setting if there is the possibility to do so.
4. We are aware that parents are looking for longer term answers, however the current childcare arrangements are for NEXT WEEK only and only as long as the capacity is available. There are still discussions as to how childcare provision will be offered after this week and the Local Authority are looking at different responses and provision once they have a better idea of the demand. We cannot respond to requests past next week and anticipate that provision will be reviewed on a week by week basis.
5. The school day on Monday is for 9.30-3.20 only. Unfortunately, having reviewed our current situation, there is a strong possibility that we may not be able to offer provision outside of the normal school hours (8.45-3.20) on the following days but will confirm this on Monday once arrangements have been finalised.

We are not able to respond to every request individually but, if you are certain that you qualify as a key worker and wish to utilise childcare on Monday, you may turn up without waiting for confirmation and your child will be signed in on arrival. However, we are very keen to know exact numbers and request that all parents requiring childcare next week email us as soon as possible (do not telephone or leave voicemail messages).

Yours sincerely,

Mrs A Harvey
Headteacher