

Online Learning Supervision for ‘vulnerable’ pupils and children of critical key workers.

Dear Parents,

As you will be aware, the school is switching to online learning until further notice after the Prime Minister’s announcement.

The reasons for switching to online learning have been set out by the Government and are aimed at reducing contact between people as much as possible and slowing the spread of the new strain of Coronavirus.

You may have heard that children of some ‘critical key workers’ and children who are considered ‘vulnerable’ may be entitled to be cared for at school during school hours. It is not compulsory for critical key workers’ children to attend school if the pupil can be safely supervised at home.

The purpose of the current lockdown is to prevent the spread of the new variant and parents who may qualify as critical keyworkers are asked to seriously consider the risk to their child and family posed by their child attending school and mixing with other children.

After giving this your full consideration and if there are no options other than you sending you child in to be supervised with their online learning at school, then please complete and return this application by 2pm today.

If there is a parent based at home or working from home, then it would be safer for your child and your family if your child were to remain at home to undertake their online learning.

What Will Online Learning Supervision at School Look Like?

If you decide it is the only course of action and your child is eligible to attend school as a critical key worker’s child and your application is approved, then the school day will operate between 8.30 – 14.30.

You will be advised by email after 6pm today of the school’s decision.

If you wish to appeal against the school’s decision then your appeal will be considered on Wednesday 6th January.

If your child is booked in for the day, they must stay for the entire session in order to enable continuity for their online learning.

You will be required to provide a packed lunch, water bottle and snack. If you are entitled to a free school meal further details will follow.

The school provision for children of critical keyworkers and vulnerable pupils will be as follows:-

- Children will be in their year bubble with a Teaching Assistant who will enable them to complete their online learning with the rest of their bubble.
- Children’s contact with their class teacher will be online via Teams. The teacher will not be present in school and will be preparing and delivering online resources and lessons to their whole class/bubble.
- A different Teaching Assistant may be supervising children of critical keyworkers and vulnerable pupils with their online learning each day; we plan to keep this change to a minimum.
- If your child has a 1:1 Teaching Assistant, they will continue to have their provision but this may be provided a different person, pending their availability.
- Parental contact with your child’s teacher is through email only. Teachers will only be able to reply during the school day.

Who can use the school based online learning supervision

1. Children of critical key workers:

The Government has issued details about which critical key workers are entitled to use this service when they are at work during the school day. Please follow this link for a comprehensive list.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

Please provide simple evidence from your employer confirming your critical key worker status (such as work ID badge or a current payslip) along with the attached form. We would prefer that you e-mailed copies of your completed application and photos of supporting evidence to the school office msjoffice@st-johns.bournemouth.sch.uk.

Failing this then you must drop off your completed application and evidence to the school office by 2pm today.

We will not be able to confirm places until we have your evidence and keyworker status of both parents if appropriate.

2. 'Vulnerable' Children

We will be contacting all parents and guardians of children with an Education Health and Care plan or a social worker to discuss your options.

If you feel you fall into the category and you have not been contacted by 2pm today then please telephone the school on 01202 527683.

Attendance at school is not compulsory and to prevent spread of the new variant of Covid it is preferred that families stay at home where at all possible.

Breakfast Club (7.30 – 8.30) and After School Club (14.30- 17.00) may be available depending on demand and there will be the normal charge for this service.

Please indicate on the application form attached if you require this service.

- If bookings need amending we require 48 hours of written notice to the school office email address
- If your child is unable to attend a booked session, please call the absence line as normal.
- If your work situation changes and you feel you qualify for critical keyworker status please submit an application. New applications will be reviewed with 48 hours during the working week.

If you qualify for this provision under the definitions provided by the Government and wish to register your child, please complete and return a copy of the attached form to the School Office along with evidence of your critical key worker status by 2pm today.