



Holtsmere End Junior School

Information regarding 'Key workers' and Vulnerable group provision during National Lockdown

In- school provision is only for Critical key worker children and vulnerable children.

The operational capacity during lockdown for each year group Bubble is assessed by SLT against the current staffing availability on site, their teaching role experience as well as the age and needs of the children within the year group setting. Where SLT assess a Bubble, group has reached its capacity, in order to support and accommodate families who are entitled to provision, parents may be asked to reduce their existing offer or be offered part-time provision, half day provision or a rota system to support accommodate more children. We will always look at all parental requests on a case by case basis, particularly where there is a demand that exceeds our capacity. In the event that there is a further request for further need it may result in children having to go on a waiting list which would then be reviewed fortnightly by SLT.

Vulnerable groups

All schools are asked to provide care for children who:

- Currently have an Education Health Care Plan
- Have an attached Social Worker (Children in Need)
- Are on the Child Protection Register
- Are a Looked After Child

Key workers

The latest guidance identifies 'key workers' as 'Parents whose work is critical to the COVID-19 response'. The Government's definition of a 'critical worker' is extensive and if inundated with requests, we may be required to prioritise in order to support the families and workers that require this help the most.

Current government guidance regarding eligibility for the school care is that children with at least one parent or carer who are identified as critical workers by the government can **potentially** send their children to school if required.

However, we must emphasise that the government guidance also states that **"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."**

See further details in the following DfE link:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/952443/210114_School_national_restrictions_guidance_FINAL_14012021.pdf