72 Crevenagh Road, Omagh. Co. Tyrone, BT79 0GW

Principal

Mr Gavin Gallagher B.Ed., P. Q. H (N.I)

Vice Principal

Mrs Siobhan Taggart. B.A. Hons., P.Q.H. (N.I)



21st March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

**Ref: Supporting Children of Key Workers** 

You are aware that schools are closed as of Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2020 at 3pm but will re-open (with a skeletal staff), to support identified Key Workers.

As a community, alongside our sister school Drumragh College, we will seek to support the front line service workers; doctors, nurses, pharmacists, paramedics, etc to enable them to support the most vulnerable people.

The earliest we can put provision in place that we consider to be adequate and most importantly safe, is from Tuesday 24th March at 8.45am.

As indicated by the Minister on Friday, schools will be open to those key workers where they cannot find an alternative.

We will endeavour to offer limited day-care provision for **ONLY** those children whose parents are **Key Workers (list attached)** and have exhausted **ALL** other options for their child's care. Our school service **MUST** be a **LAST RESORT** in order to protect your children, our staff and the wider community and to ensure that the maximum number of Key Workers can get to work to provide the essential front-line services that we need.

PLEASE NOTE: Only children with an official confirmation of a place can attend school. No child will be admitted to the school without the prior consent of the Principal or Vice Principal.

As there is a limit to the number of places that we can provide under current regulations, it is vital that we know how many children require this service....

Please email the school by 10am on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March, <a href="mailto:info@integratedprimary.omagh.ni.sch.uk">info@integratedprimary.omagh.ni.sch.uk</a> with the following details:

- Your name and job (both occupations where two parents are key workers)
- Your children's names and classes
- Which days and times (this coming week) you will need provision.

continued overleaf

Tel: 02882 242008 Email: info@integratedprimary.omagh.ni.sch.uk

Website: www.omaghintegratedps.com

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We will then reply via email to indicate the next steps...

Parents are asked to note that we will only be able to operate our normal 8.45am – 2.45pm school day at present and we will only be able to operate if enough staff are able to attend work.

We are working as quickly as we can to set up these arrangements and I would ask that only those in most need of childcare and who are Key Workers, contact the school at this time.

Thank you for your patience and continued support at this time.

Regards *Gavin Gallagher* Principal

## **Key Workers**

The following (Dept of Education list) outlines the broad categories of what would be defined as a key worker:

- Health and Social Care. This includes doctors, nurses, midwives, paramedics, social workers, home carers and staff required to maintain our health and social care sector;
- Education and childcare. This includes pre-school and teaching staff, social workers and those specialist education professionals who will remain active during the Covid-19 response;
- Public safety and national security. This includes civilians and officers in the police (including key contractors), Fire and Rescue Service, prison service and other national security roles;
- Transport. This will include those keeping air, water, road and rail transport modes operating during the Covid-19 response;
- Utilities and Communication. This includes staff needed for oil, gas, electricity and water (including sewage) and primary industry supplies, to continue during the Covid-19 response, as well as key staff in telecommunications, post and delivery, services and waste disposal;
- Food and other necessary goods. This includes those involved in food production, processing, distribution and sale, as well as those essential to the provision of other key goods (e.g hygiene, medical etc);
- Other workers essential to delivering key public services;
- Key national and local government including those administrative occupations essential to the effective delivery of the Covid-19 response.

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