



The Academy at
St James
Aspire, Achieve, Believe

The Academy at St James
Chelwood Drive
Bradford
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Telephone: 01274 777095
Head of School: Mr Chris Tolson

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is with a heavy heart that once again I am writing to let you know that as a result of yesterday's announcement from the Prime Minister, school will be closed from today for all pupils **except the children of critical workers and vulnerable pupils**, as a part of the on going response to the Coronavirus pandemic.

Due to the short notice we have been given, The Academy St James will close for **all pupils** (including children of critical workers and vulnerable children) from today which will allow us to plan safely for this announcement and ensure that we can open for children of critical workers and vulnerable pupils from **Wednesday 6th January** as well as organising provision for Free School Meals and remote online learning.

Teachers will be setting online learning from **Tuesday 5th January**. Please refer to our Class Dojo or Google Classroom for work on Tuesday where you can find useful information on our home learning page and class pages.

As a country, we all need to do what we can to reduce the spread of the COVID-19 virus. That is why the government has announced the new lockdown, as people are told to **stay at home**.

Schools are being asked to continue to provide education on site for a **limited** number of children - children who are vulnerable, and children whose parents are **critical** to the Covid-19 response. Vulnerable children include those who have a social worker and those with Education, Health Care Plans, looked after children, young carers and disabled children. The government's definition of critical key workers is outlined below.

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 above and who wish to take up a place at school for critical worker provision from **Wednesday 6th January** then please complete the online form and or ring the school office and as to speak to or Ruth Thompson or Becky Albentosa.

The link is here:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScChEfhPhNiD7HgMGsGU5alhufmYv9CM6Ynw2dpxZs7OYnj9g/viewform?usp=pp_url

If you are a critical worker but do have other means of child care then we would urge you to use those resources if possible. Further details will be sent tomorrow once parents have updated us.

School will contact vulnerable families today to invite them into the provision from **Wednesday 6th January**. **All other pupils must stay at home and home learning will be provided and marked by our staff.**

I know that his news will be as devastating to you as it is to us all here at school. This is the last thing we wanted to happen but we know that we all need to pull together to try and reduce the spread of the virus within our communities.

I will be in touch again very soon with more information.

Yours Sincerely

Mr Tolson

Headteacher

LIST OF CRITICAL WORKERS

Critical workers

Parents whose work is critical to the coronavirus (COVID-19) and EU transition response include those who work in health and social care and in other key sectors outlined in the following sections.

Health and social care

This includes, but is not limited to, doctors, nurses, midwives, paramedics, social workers, care workers, and other frontline health and social care staff including volunteers; the support and specialist staff required to maintain the UK's health and social care sector; those working as part of the health and social care supply chain, including producers and distributors of medicines and medical and personal protective equipment.

Education and childcare

This includes:

- childcare
- support and teaching staff
- social workers
- specialist education professionals who must remain active during the coronavirus (COVID-19) response to deliver this approach

Key public services

This includes:

- those essential to the running of the justice system
- religious staff
- charities and workers delivering key frontline services
- those responsible for the management of the deceased

- journalists and broadcasters who are providing public service broadcasting

Local and national government

This only includes those administrative occupations essential to the effective delivery of:

- the coronavirus (COVID-19) response, and the delivery of and response to EU transition
- essential public services, such as the payment of benefits and the certification or checking of goods for import and export (including animal products, animals, plants and food), including in government agencies and arm's length bodies.

Food and other necessary goods

This includes those involved in food:

- production
- processing
- distribution
- sale and delivery
- as well as those essential to the provision of other key goods (for example hygienic and veterinary medicines)

Public safety and national security

This includes:

- police and support staff
- Ministry of Defence civilians
- contractor and armed forces personnel (those critical to the delivery of key defence and national security outputs and essential to the response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak and EU transition)
- fire and rescue service employees (including support staff)
- National Crime Agency staff
- those maintaining border security, prison and probation staff and other national security roles, including those overseas.

Transport and border

This includes those who will keep the air, water, road and rail passenger and freight transport modes operating during the coronavirus (COVID-19) response and EU transition, including those working on transport systems through which supply chains pass and those constructing or supporting the operation of critical transport and border infrastructure through which supply chains pass.

Utilities, communication and financial services

This includes:

- staff needed for essential financial services provision (including but not limited to workers in banks, building societies and financial market infrastructure)
- the oil, gas, electricity and water sectors (including sewerage)
- information technology and data infrastructure sector and primary industry supplies to continue during the coronavirus (COVID-19) response
- key staff working in the civil nuclear, chemicals, telecommunications (including but not limited to network operations, field engineering, call centre staff, IT and data infrastructure, 999 and 111 critical services)
- postal services and delivery
- payments providers
- waste disposal sectors