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| SBS Logo.bmp | **St Bridget’s C of E Primary School**St Bridget’s Lane,West Kirby,Wirral CH48 3JTTel: 0151 625 7652 Headteacher: Mr Neil Le Feuvre Email: schooloffice@stbridgets.wirral.sch.ukWebsite: <https://st-bridgets.eschools.co.uk/website> 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' **Luke 10:27**  |

**20-3-2020**

Dear Parents/Carers,

Following the government announcement at 2am this morning I am now writing to you to organise St. Bridget’s CE Primary School becoming an **emergency child care provider**. The government has closed all schools as of this afternoon.

We anticipate high demand for places on our emergency keyworker childcare provision to be run from Monday 23rd March 2020 at St Bridget’s C of E Primary School. We have very limited places available due to the necessity of keeping this provision at the correct scale to protect both our staff and the children who attend. If the provision is too large it negates any benefits of the social distancing measures the government has imposed and through associated contacts children and staff will be exposed to unacceptable risk.

This is not ‘business as usual’ or a holiday club and all medical advisers are clear that the safest place for children and families to be at present is **at home with as little social contact as possible**. These emergency childcare places are intended for families who have no other adult at home to look after children and who are immediately required in the response to this virus. Thus the first tier consists of frontline medical workers and emergency services where **both parents are required** **to work** **or one in the case of single-parent families**.

Thank you to all our keyworkers for your commitment to our public services. My Governors and I know that this is not a convenient solution for all our key workers but we hope you appreciate that this is an extraordinary request at short notice.

**Keyworkers – priorities and tiering**

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| **Tiering** | **Descriptor** |
| **Tier 1 – will be allocated a place first where available** | * NHS frontline clinical staff or administrators (e.g. NHS 911 etc.) working directly with Coronavirus patients;
* First responders (i.e. paramedics or those who support them)
* Police officers and some civilian police staff (e.g. dispatchers);
* Firefighters;
* Those in NHS support services needed to keep hospitals and clinics running – e.g. hospital porters, full time hospital cleaners etc. (please explain when you e-mail us)
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| **Tier 2 – will be allocated a place when all places are not used by Tier 1 parents (effectively first waiting list)** | * Other frontline NHS workers (e.g. midwives, pathologists, CT scan operators, radiographers)
* Local authority staff working in key emergency planning roles;
* Some Ministry of Defence personnel;
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| **Tier 3 – keyworkers who may be needed if/when the crisis escalates (effectively second waiting list – clinical staff offered first)**  | * Those in other NHS/private care roles who will not be called upon to assist in coronavirus cases – e.g. care home staff, researchers, private pharmacists, OT, NHS administrators, other medical specialities etc.)
* Social workers;
* Those involved with the supply chain for supermarkets and pharmacies (i.e. supermarket delivery drivers and those in supporting logistics roles)
* Those working for TfL in key transport roles (train drivers, bus drivers
* Prison officers and some other prison staff or involved in judicial system;
* Those working in care homes or in meals on wheels;
* Community police officers;
* Teachers and other school staff
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| **Tier 4 – not able to offer a place** | * Those involved in the water industry – delivery or maintenance;
* ICT or telecoms workers in critical roles (please explain in e-mail)
* Those employed in necessary government processes such as the payment of benefits.
* Probation service staff;
* Those involved in fuel or gas deliveries or maintenance;
* Associated staff in support roles for transport services;
* NHS medical students
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**Application Process**

We invite applications for emergency child care provision from families where both parents are Tier 1 Key Workers as detailed above (or one if a single-parent family) and every other reasonable option for childcare has been explored. **The advice remains that the safest place for our children remains at home.**

The application form will be attached to this email and once completed should be sent to emergencycontact@stbridgets.wirral.sch.uk as soon as possible. Paper copies of this application form will also be available from the school office.

Upon receiving applications from parents who meet the criteria detailed above we will move to Tier 2 should places remain.

Please note that you need to be offered a place before we can permit your child to enter the school building on Monday. Please be prepared to bring proof of employment (such as photo ID) if you are offered a place.

**Staffing**

Please be aware that school will be operating a skeleton staff for as long as possible. We will provide childcare with attention to mitigating risk of infection. The initial times for child care will be 8am to 3.30pm. Should it be no longer safe to run this child care due to infection or staffing concerns we will contact you immediately.

Your sincerely,

Neil Le Feuvre