

**Our ref:** CYP-COVID 19  
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**Children and Young People's Services**  
Town Hall  
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Dear Parents

As you are aware schools nationally closed on Friday for all children other than the most vulnerable and those children of critical workers as defined by the government.

The aim of the school closure measures set out by the Secretary of State for Education is to reduce the overall population of children moving around local areas as far as possible, in order to further reduce the number of social interactions and thus flatten the upward curve of the COVID-19 outbreak.

Children with a parent or carer who is listed on the government's critical worker list should be considered for a school place, **SO LONG AS THEIR JOB CANNOT BE DONE FROM HOME OR THERE IS NO OTHER PARENT OR CARER WHO CAN REMAIN AT HOME TO CARE FOR THEM.**

Many parents working in these sectors **will be able** to ensure their child is kept at home. **And every child who can be safely cared for at home should be, to limit the chance of the virus spreading.**

I strongly urge you to ensure that you only send your child to school if it is the **VERY LAST RESORT**. Every child who can be safely cared for at home should be.

You will know from the national media that **more people are dying by the day with no sign of this ceasing. KEEPING YOUR CHILD AT HOME WILL SAVE LIVES.**

Thank you for your support in this matter. I send my best wishes to you and your families during this unprecedented and worrying time.

Yours sincerely

Julie Jenkins  
**Director – Children and Young People's Services**

