



The Rutland Learning Trust

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CEO: Mr R Gooding

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Dear parents,

Thank you for your patience and understanding, it seems almost every hour the situation regarding Covid-19 changes and I am sorry for the uncertainty this creates for our community. What is clear is that we should consider how we can socially distance ourselves from others. In particular ensure that our children who although themselves are likely to be least impacted by the virus could infect large numbers of other more vulnerable groups if they continue to act normally during this crisis. **The government advice is clear that children should stay at home unless it is not possible because they have parents who are identified as workers critical to the Covid-19 response**. The government has published in the early hours of this morning further advice: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers>

This includes a broader list of critical workers

(<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>) than we had anticipated. We are therefore applying the criteria **if you consider yourself and your partner critical workers under this guidance** your child can have a childcare place. If your partner is not a critical worker then you should be able to put in place appropriate childcare and **your child should not attend school to support the social distancing strategy**.

We will however consider exceptions to this, **but only on a case by case basis**, please email the school office with any relevant information and evidence.

Initially schools will only be able to offer basic support services around catering and whilst childcare provision will be supported by a teacher or teaching assistant, sessions and activities will be relaxed and flexible rather than structured lessons. Sessions will include children of different ages and children will be encouraged to complete their home learning whilst in attendance.

We will continue to communicate with all parents whether their child attends or is at home and have well-resourced plans to support learning from home. Our intent is to try to increase our distance learning offer as time goes on to allow our children to continue to thrive whilst we are

closed. Although childcare sessions will continue during the traditional Easter break, distance learning activities will be suspended during this period.

Thank you for your patience and understanding in these unprecedented times.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rob Gooding', written over a thin horizontal line.

Rob Gooding
CEO
Rutland Learning Trust