

Reigate School

Pendleton Road
Reigate
Surrey
RH2 7NT

Chair of Governors: Mr N Gout
Executive Principal: Mrs S Wardlow
Head of School: Mr M Alexander
Telephone: 01737 243166 Fax: 01737 226069
email: info@reigate-school.surrey.sch.uk
www.reigate-school.surrey.sch.uk

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Dear Parents and Carers

Re: School Closure

I would like to provide some clarity regarding the provision in our schools during this period of school closure. The government has asked schools to provide childcare for vulnerable children and children whose parents are critical workers **only if they cannot be safely looked after at home.** The government has said that, “Those who work in and with our schools rightly take their place next to our NHS staff and other critical workers as central to our efforts in battling this virus.”

How are critical workers defined?

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.**

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.

Our school staff are happy to provide a childcare service to those that need it and play their part in the battle against the virus, but are also keenly aware of the increased risk all of those attending school each day are under, whilst the rest of the country is being urged to stay at home and put in place strict social distancing routines.

I urge all parents to review their personal circumstances and only send your children to school if you meet the criteria. This is the very best way that we can all support the front line workers and keep their children safe during this time.

Each of our schools have procedures in place, such as hand-washing, to try and ensure the risk of spreading germs is minimised. Enforcing social distancing rules, such as staying two metres apart is very difficult, particularly for very young children, so the fewer children on site the easier this will be.

I would like to thank you for your support in following the Government Directive during this very difficult time. It is my sincere hope that if we all follow the advice we've been given, we will be able to open our schools for all children soon.

I am extremely proud and grateful to the staff in our schools for their commitment and effort.

I hope you all stay safe and well.

Yours sincerely



Mrs S Wardlow
Executive Principal