Dear Parents / Carers

Further to previous correspondence relating to the provision of childcare in school while we are closed, I am writing to all parents that have indicated that they fit into the very broad categories listed by the Cabinet Office. There are 38 children in total.

The advice to the nation has been clear that the fewer children making the journey to school, and the fewer children in educational settings, the lower the risk that the virus can spread and infect vulnerable individuals in wider society. Education Secretary Gavin Williamson said that in England the aim would be to provide support in school for an estimated 10% of pupils.

Clearly, our number is higher than the 10%, and this concerns me. With 37 children, it is not possible to ‘social distance’, and I am therefore not able to follow the advice to keep us all, both children and staff, as safe as we can be at the minute.

I have already asked each of you to provide confirmation from your employers that your role is vital to the national Covid-19 response. Many thanks to those of you that have already sent this. It seems that employers are very ready and willing to do this. A place will not be secured without this.

I would also like to remind you all that the government has also made it clear that the children should be at home wherever this is possible, with the only exceptions being for vulnerable children or if your work is **critical** to the COVID-19 response. If you work in one of the critical sectors listed, and you cannot keep your child safe at home then your children will be **prioritised** for education provision. This is not a guarantee of a place.

I would ask you all to evaluate your individual circumstances over the weekend, and be certain that your child can not be at home and that your work is critical to the COVID-19 response. If you still require your place, you need take no further action and we will expect to see your child at 8:45am on Monday. If this is not the case, please let [Name] know (office@school.peterborough.sch.uk).

If we have all 38 children on Monday, we will provide care for all of them for that day in lieu of the short notice, but on Monday I will have to reassess and prioritise provision for some. This means that I will be writing to some families to let them know that we will not be able to provide child care for them. This will be based on those families with 2 key workers and those with key workers working on the ‘frontline’. For this reason, for those of you who recognise that your role fits very broadly into one of the categories, and you are not a ‘frontline’ worker, it may be wise to start making alternative arrangements.

Kind regards,