Good evening Parents and Carers,

***Will all key workers qualify for critical childcare provision?***

*We have been told by the local authority that, if one parent is a key worker and the other is not, the non-key worker should normally be expected to provide childcare. If it is at all possible for children to be at home, then they should be.*

*In general, we expect that if key workers can perform their critical functions effectively when working remotely from home, they should do so. Parents should not rely for childcare upon those who are advised to be in the stringent social distancing category such as grandparents, friends, or family members with underlying conditions.*

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus---school-and-elc-closures-guidance-on-critical-childcare-provision-for-key-workers/>

This expectation is clear, identified schools should only be attended where it is an absolute necessity for children who are from a single parent family where the parent is a Key Worker, or where **BOTH** parents are Key Workers.

**Key Worker Child Provision**

Please find attached a letter outlining the establishments open for Key Worker Childcare from Monday 23rd March 2020.

**Kintore School will be the Primary School open for Kemnay Cluster nursery and primary pupils.**

**This plan is for the following three groups of Children and Young People in communities only therefore all other children should not attend**

1. SQA pupils – who are contacted by schools and required to attend to complete coursework

2. Children with a statutory entitlement to Free School Meals

3. Children of key workers

**Key Workers**

The Scottish Government has advised that they are viewing key workers as those who work in posts which ensure that essential services can be delivered, or those who cover tasks within the local community that support the vulnerable and aid community resilience. A guide to the definition of a key worker is below:

**Category 1**

• *Health and care workers directly supporting COVID response, and associated staff.*

*• Health and Care workers supporting life threatening emergency work.*

*• Health and Care workers supporting critical primary and community care provision.*

*• Energy suppliers*

*• Staff providing childcare/learning for other Category 1 staff.*

**Category 2**

• *All other Health and Care workers.*

*• Public Sector workers providing emergency/critical welfare services (e.g Fire, Police, Prisons, Social Workers, etc).*

*• Workers supporting the Critical National Infrastructure*

**Category 3**

• *All workers without whom there could be a significant impact on Scotland (but where the response to Covdi-19, or the ability to perform essential tasks to keep the country running, would not be severely compromised)*

All academies will be closed to all children and young people. Staff will work towards contacting SQA pupils who require to complete course work towards their qualifications. Children of key workers will be able to attend for all aged learning and childcare. Meals will be provided for children eligible for income based free meals. One Primary School per cluster will also be open for Early Years and Primary aged children who are eligible for income based free meals and children of keyworkers.

For anybody who is entitled to a free school meal a pack lunch can be collected from Academies between 12 and 1pm each day. If your child/children have special dietary requirement please email their requirements to - Special Diets to schoolmeals@aberdeenshire.gov.uk with pupil name, academy they will attend + dietary requirement

**Kintore School and Nursery will be open 9am-3pm from Monday 23rd March 2020 onwards.**

Parents who believe they meet the criteria should attend with their child(ren) to the main entrance of Kintore School. Parents should ensure:

-pupils attend in clothes suitable for indoor and outdoor learning activities. School Uniform is not necessary.

-pupils attend with a snack for breaktime and a packed lunch unless they are currently in receipt of a free school meal entitlement at their zoned primary school (at this stage, this does not include the normal P1-P3 allocation)

-pupils attend with any medicines required during the school day. Parents will be required to complete the necessary forms on arrival.

Parents are asked to not contact the school in advance. A large part of Monday morning will be enrolling pupils, setting up groups and arranging staff for the week ahead. The Kemnay Cluster Head Teachers and staff from each school will be working together to establish this provision.

We aim to have as many staff available to support the first morning as possible, but I would ask parents to please be patient as this is established.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely,

Scott

Scott Anderson

**Head Teacher**