

20/03/2020

Dear Parents and Carers,



Emergency Provision of last-resort limited child-care for essential key-worker personnel online.

Following the announcement by the DENI Minister this week that all schools will close from Monday 23rd March 2020 as a precaution to prevent spread and contamination of COVID-19. This still remains the case. With a heavy heart we must remind you that **SCHOOL WILL BE CLOSED FROM MONDAY 23RD MARCH 2020 INDEFINITELY.**

Your child's education provision will now be met through the home learning packs you have received, as well as the online facility our teaching staff have worked tirelessly to prepare for and will continue to work on indefinitely.

The Minister has also outlined yesterday his aspirations and we continue to await further guidance on this.

We will endeavour to offer limited **day-care provision** from **9am-3pm** of **ONLY** those children whose parents are **key-workers** and have exhausted ALL other options for their child's care.

We must stress that the best way to keep everyone safe (children, staff and your loved ones), is to KEEP YOUR CHILD AT HOME.

However, we recognise there will be a very small number of you who will identify as those key-workers that have no alternative options left for your child-care. So, once we have received further guidance from the Department on Education on priority allocation, we hope to offer a limited number of spaces available for such child-care, based on the very limited human resources available.

The criteria set by the Department of Education can be found here =

<https://www.education-ni.gov.uk/news/letter-minister-education-education-sector>

If you believe you fall into the category of parents who meet this prescriptive criteria, please contact us at school by email to info@ligoniel.belfast.ni.sch.uk before 9pm on Friday 20th March.

Please ensure you clearly state how you believe you meet the government criteria. We have provided an application for Key-Workers attached.

We will then assess your criteria in line with our capacity to deliver this service. We will prioritise those numbers so we can support you and then offer you a place to accept under our terms and conditions led by our constraints. Please note both parents must be key workers.

We are most grateful to those key-workers on the front line who are helping to fight this global pandemic. These are unprecedented times and we know everyone is digging deep to support the national effort.

Stay safe and keep your family safe.

Mrs L Stewart
Principal