

# Oaklands Catholic School and Sixth Form College

Stakes Hill Road

Waterlooville

Hampshire

PO7 7BW

☎ 023 9225 9214

☎ 023 9223 0317

🌐 [www.oaklandscatholicsschool.org](http://www.oaklandscatholicsschool.org)

✉ [oaklands@oaklandscatholicsschool.org](mailto:oaklands@oaklandscatholicsschool.org)



Edith Stein Catholic Academy Trust  
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Registered in England and Wales, Company No 07721932

**Headteacher:** Matthew Quinn B.Ed (Hons), M.A., NPQH

Our Ref: MQ/SM

5 January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

## Provision for Students of Critical Workers

The Prime Minister's announcement last night, although not unexpected, has brought some certainty to the closure of schools up to half term. We can now plan the provision for vulnerable children and students of critical workers over this period. Additions have also been made to the definition of critical workers, bringing in adults working on Brexit transition business into this group. I am aware that now school closure is lasting until February half term, a number of families where parents are critical workers would like to revisit their plans. For these reasons I need to write out to you again about our in-school provision. I apologise that this is the third occasion, but I need to respond to the fluidity of the situation.

The Government has again asked schools to provide provision for critical workers throughout this period of closure. **At Oaklands provision for students of critical workers will now continue until at least Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2021.**

Schools have been asked to provide a service for children where the parents are in this critical worker category **and** they cannot provide an alternative themselves for children during the school day.

The revised definition of key workers can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

I must emphasise that this service remains an emergency service and is only for key workers who cannot provide childcare at home.

**Please do not try and use this service if you do not fall into these categories.** The provision in school will be very similar to the remote learning offer to students working at home.

I appreciate that some parents have already completed the sign-up form more than once. We now need some certainty for the rest of the half term so that we can staff the provision appropriately and dovetail attendance in with the lateral flow testing programme. I will write separately on this matter.

If you are a critical worker and you require in school provision for your child between **Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January and Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February inclusive**, please complete this form by **7<sup>th</sup> January 2021**.

**[Provision request form.](#)**

## **Provision details**

### **Timing:**

Provision will follow the normal school day. It will not be possible to have students attending school for half or part days. Equally, this is a full-time provision and we cannot offer occasional days.

### **Canteen service:**

The canteen will not operate over this period. (Please note this is a change). Students attending the provision will be expected to bring their own drinks, snacks and lunch with them each day. Vouchers will be sent to parents where students are eligible for FSM.

### **Registration:**

Students will be kept in year group bubbles so that these will be maintained when the rest of the school return. Students attending the onsite provision must go to their year muster areas when they arrive on site (no earlier than 8.40am). They will be collected by a member of staff at 8.50am and taken to specific rooms to register.

### **Supervision:**

Students will be supervised to undertake the remote learning that is being set for all other students. A number of other activities may be available during the day. Staff will be on hand to assist with the learning. The member of staff may not be a subject specialist and it is likely that they may not be familiar to some students. If students have their own laptop or tablet they are encouraged to bring this into school.

### **Groups:**

These will be of mixed ability and Learning Support Assistants will be assigned where appropriate. Students will be maintained in their bubbles.

### **Uniform and Equipment:**

Students will be expected to attend in full school uniform, they are required to have the necessary equipment for learning. Staff have been instructed to maintain their standards of professional dress as well, so that the students see familiar faces in familiar roles. Students and staff will appreciate the consistency that this will bring.

### **Behaviour and Rewards:**

The school behaviour and rewards policy will apply during the school day. Students in the provision will be asked to sign the Expectations Agreement. The new addition to this is the wearing of face coverings at all times, including in the classrooms.

I appreciate that the restriction on the provision we can provide may appear limiting, but we need to manage the remote learning for all other students. We are also conscious that we are now in a national lockdown so maintaining social distancing, hygiene measures and teaching bubbles is also paramount.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely



Mr M Quinn  
**Headteacher**