

Notice re Key Worker/Vulnerable Children Supervised Learning (05-01-21)

St Columb's College will be open to accommodate vulnerable children and the children of Key Workers for supervised learning.

Definition of Key Workers:

Please note that if one parent meets this definition, then the child can access a supervised place in school.

- Health and Social Care. This includes doctors, nurses, midwives, paramedics, social workers, home carers and staff required to maintain our health and social care sector;
- Education and childcare. This includes pre-school and teaching staff, social workers and those specialist education professionals who will remain active during the Covid-19 response;
- Public safety and national security. This includes civilians and officers in the police (including key contractors), Fire and Rescue Service, prison service and other national security roles;
- Transport. This will include those keeping air, water, road and rail transport modes operating during the Covid-19 response;
- Utilities, and Communication. This includes staff needed for oil, gas, electricity and water (including sewage) and primary industry supplies to continue during the Covid-19 response, as well as key staff in telecommunications, post and delivery, banking and waste disposal;
- Financial Services - This includes staff needed for essential financial services provision (including but not limited to workers in banks, building societies and financial market infrastructure);
- Food and other necessary goods. This includes those involved in food production, processing, distribution and sale, as well as those essential to the provision of other key goods (e.g. hygiene, medical, etc.);
- Retail. This includes those workers who have been working throughout the pandemic in food retail, for example, and will now extend to those working in other retail businesses permitted to operate by the Executive from June 2020;
- Other workers essential to delivering key public services such as the National Crime Agency;
- Key national and local government including those administrative occupations essential to the effective delivery of the Covid-19 response.

Definition of Vulnerable Children and Young People:

The definition of Vulnerable Children as set out in the cross-departmental Vulnerable Children and Young People's Plan 2020 is:

- A child who has an assigned social worker because he or she is a child in need, in need of protection (or on the child protection register) or is a looked after child;
- A child in need includes young carers, children with disabilities, and children living in families where there is domestic abuse, substance abuse, and/or mental health difficulties;
- A child who is receiving support from, or has been referred to Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS);
- A child who has a statement of Special Educational Needs (SEN), a child who is accessing EOTAS, or a child who normally accesses Education Nurture Units;
- A child who is 'on-the-edge' of receiving support from children's social services;
- A child who is in need, including in need of protection, but whose need is not known to statutory services;
- A child who is not known to statutory or voluntary and community support services but who is vulnerable because their family is under increased pressure due to Covid-19 related circumstances;

- A young person who was previously a looked after child, whether or not they are receiving support from statutory services;
- A child who has been placed for adoption;
- Asylum seeking and refugee children and children whose parents have no recourse to public funds.

Next Steps:

If you would like to avail of a supervised learning place for your child or for a young person in your care, **you must contact the school office** on 028 71285000 **by 12 noon on the day before supervision is required.**

Please Note:

These school places will offer ‘supervised learning’, **not** ‘face to face’ teaching. Pupils in attendance will complete the same work as pupils at home using the remote learning platform of Google Classroom. In addition:

- Pupils availing of supervised learning are expected to be in the school for the full school day.
- Pupils must be in full school uniform.
- Pupils must bring and wear a face covering on corridors and in the room.
- Pupils should bring their own laptop/tablet in order to access Google Classroom.
- Pupils should bring their textbooks and writing material.
- Pupils should use headphones if engaged in a Google Meet live session.

School buses will operate as normal in both the morning and afternoon, with the exception of the additional direct ‘Park’ bus, which was introduced to reduce congestion. With less children attending school, Translink have advised that this service will not resume until schools return to full capacity.

Designated Areas for Supervised Learning:

Year 8 Pupils – IT1;

Year 9 Pupils - IT4;

Year 10 Pupils - Tutorial Room;

Year 11 Pupils - Room 34/35 (new Study facility).

Pupils are to enter and leave the school via their usual access points.