

# Challney High School for Girls

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Headteacher: Mrs J K Mylles BA (Hons), MEd, NPQH



20<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

## Re: Coronavirus update – school closure to most pupils - key workers

We are writing to you again with our next update on our response to the spread of coronavirus.

We wrote to you yesterday to explain that **we have now been instructed to close the school to almost all children from the end of the school day today, until further notice.**

Government guidance is that if it is **AT ALL POSSIBLE** for children to be at home, then they should be.

However, we explained that as advised by the government, we will do all we can to stay open for the children of key workers and other children with specific needs (i.e. those with Education, Health & Care Plans) and those supported by a social worker, during the normal school term and during the Easter holidays.

We provided a definition of key workers in advance of government guidance. Thank you to those parents and carers who have already responded through the google form we provided or by contacting the school directly on [admin@challneygirls.luton.sch.uk](mailto:admin@challneygirls.luton.sch.uk), we will be in touch with more information shortly.

I'm now writing to let you know that **we have received further guidance from government on the definition of key workers.**

**If you have not already replied** and as the parent or carer of a child in our school and working in one of the following professions, it would help us if you could let us know, by 1pm today **whether you would like your child to continue to attend school during the normal school term and during the Easter holidays;**

### Health and social care

This includes but is not limited to doctors, nurses, midwives, paramedics, social workers, care workers, and other frontline health and social care staff including volunteers; the support and specialist staff required to maintain the UK's health and social care sector; those working as part of the health and social care supply chain, including producers and distributors of medicines and medical and personal protective equipment.

### Education and childcare

This includes nursery and teaching staff, social workers and those specialist education professionals who must remain active during the COVID-19 response to deliver this approach.



## **Key public services**

This includes those essential to the running of the justice system, religious staff, charities and workers delivering key frontline services, those responsible for the management of the deceased, and journalists and broadcasters who are providing public service broadcasting.

## **Local and national government**

This only includes those administrative occupations essential to the effective delivery of the COVID-19 response or delivering essential public services such as the payment of benefits, including in government agencies and arms-length bodies.

## **Food and other necessary goods**

This includes those involved in food production, processing, distribution, sale and delivery as well as those essential to the provision of other key goods (for example hygienic and veterinary medicines).

## **Public safety and national security**

This includes police and support staff, Ministry of Defence civilians, contractor and armed forces personnel (those critical to the delivery of key defence and national security outputs and essential to the response to the COVID-19 pandemic), fire and rescue service employees (including support staff), National Crime Agency staff, those maintaining border security, prison and probation staff and other national security roles, including those overseas.

## **Transport**

This includes those who will keep the air, water, road and rail passenger and freight transport modes operating during the COVID-19 response, including those working on transport systems through which supply chains pass.

## **Utilities, communication and 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), the oil, gas, electricity and water sectors (including sewerage), information technology and data infrastructure sector and primary industry supplies to continue during the COVID-19 response, as well as key staff working in the civil nuclear, chemicals, telecommunications (including but not limited to network operations, field engineering, call centre staff, IT and data infrastructure, 999 and 111 critical services), postal services and delivery, payments providers and waste disposal sectors.

If you think that you fall within the critical categories above you should confirm with your employer that, based on their business continuity arrangements, your specific role is necessary for the continuation of that essential public service.

Please email [admin@challneygirls.luton.sch.uk](mailto:admin@challneygirls.luton.sch.uk). Please give your child's name and registration group along with your name and contact telephone number.

You can alternatively complete a short form accessed via the following link:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScXEGT9Z-RYFKKZvoBqRkBpJiUAX50TxCJ17cdCJAszVn-S1g/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScXEGT9Z-RYFKKZvoBqRkBpJiUAX50TxCJ17cdCJAszVn-S1g/viewform?usp=sf_link)

We'll be in touch again as soon as we are able to confirm the arrangements for your child.

**As advised yesterday, all other children will need to stay at home, so we ask that you do not send your child into school from Monday onwards.**



Please note that this is a national closure so while it is a challenging situation, we are not alone. We'll re-open fully as soon as we can and will let you know when this is by text message and an email. The information will also be on the front page of the school website. We will also send an email to students.

### **What we'll continue doing while your child is at home**

Your child's learning is of course important to us, so we'll continue to help your child to learn.

School will be emailing your daughter with a timetable to follow for the coming weeks with the information on where to access the work. This could be through a Google Classroom (set up by her subject teachers), through EPrise or via email. Many subjects have also provided paper-based resources for your daughter. We expect your daughter to be available for the 5 hours of study every day as shown on the timetable. Your daughter will be instructed how to submit any work completed. Teachers will be available via email to communicate with the students for any clarification between 8.30am and 3.30pm. All work should be completed to a high standard. Staff email addresses will be available on the school website.

For Year 10 students only: If your daughter is required for any additional on-line support by their teacher, this will be communicated by them.

If your child usually receives free school meals we will also shortly be in touch with more information about how we will continue to provide this, with support from a scheme that the government has just announced.

### **What we won't be able to go ahead with**

School trips  
Breakfast Club  
Any school-based activity during or after school hours  
Internal exams or tests

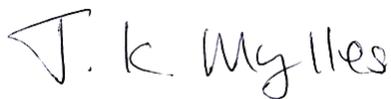
This is as much as we know right now and we appreciate your continued patience as we deal with this ever-changing situation. We understand that this latest news will have an impact on you and your family but we'll continue to keep in touch with any updates as the situation develops.

Our social media will also be updated daily @Challney\_Girls.

If you want to get in touch to share any concerns, please don't hesitate to do so via [admin@challneygirls.luton.sch.uk](mailto:admin@challneygirls.luton.sch.uk).

Please remember that if you or your child feels ill and you want to know what to do next, please use [NHS 111 online](#).

Thank you again for your continued support, we will be in touch with more information when we can.



**Mrs J K Mylles**  
**Headteacher**

