

20 March 2020

To parents and carers at
all Ebor Academy Trust schools

Dear Parent/Carer

You will now be aware of the government guidance on the definition of key workers and who will qualify to have their children remain in school during the coronavirus outbreak. Full guidance is available online: <https://bit.ly/397rQ4Z>

It is our civic duty during this national emergency to adhere to the principles of the government directive, which is to **limit numbers of pupils remaining in school as far as possible** so as to lower the risk that the virus will spread.

We are giving headteachers at all our schools absolute discretion on this matter and they will ultimately have the final say, with the trust's complete support.

Priority must be given to children classed as vulnerable – definition is: Children who are supported by social care, those with safeguarding and welfare needs, including child in need plans, on child protection plans, 'looked after' children, young carers, disabled children and those with Education and Health Care plans. Our schools will also want to support other children facing social difficulties.

Schools have been asked to continue to provide care for only a limited number of children and except where other arrangements have been made, our schools will remain open until further notice, including through Easter. This is why it is vitally important to keep those numbers as low as possible so as to be able to provide adequate staffing and, if possible, a rota system for our staff so that they can have an occasional well-earned break.

Please note that if your occupation does put you in the category that you qualify for your children to attend school, if your circumstances are that you are able to keep them at home anyway, then we would ask that you should.

It is so important we all continue to work together in these difficult times.

Yours faithfully



Mrs Gail Brown
Chief Executive and Executive Headteacher