



# **COVID-19 Emergency Childcare Admissions Policy**

Agreed at (please indicate with a \*):

- Full Governing Body Meeting \_\_\_\_\_\*
- Children and Learning Committee Meeting \_\_\_\_\_
- Resources Committee Meeting \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 28.1.21

# COVID-19 Emergency Childcare Admissions Policy Contents

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# COVID-19 Emergency Childcare Admissions Policy

## 1. Introduction

- a) As part of national social distancing measures, to limit the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19), the numbers of children attending Stamford Green Primary School and Nursery from YR to Y6, have had to be limited to ensure that pupils and staff attending can do so safely. As directed by the government, the school will be open to priority groups as schools, and all childcare providers, are being asked to continue to provide care for a limited number of children:
  - i) Children who are a priority.
  - ii) Children whose parents are critical to the COVID-19 response and cannot be safely cared for at home.

## 2. Priority Children

We have used the government guidance and defined children who are a priority as follows:

Children and young people include those who:

- a) Are assessed as being in need under section 17 of the Children Act 1989, including children and young people who have a child in need plan, a child protection plan or who are a looked-after child.
- b) Have an education, health and care (EHC) plan.
- c) Have been identified as otherwise vulnerable by educational providers or local authorities (including children's social care services), and who could therefore benefit from continued full-time attendance, this might include:
  - i) Children and young people on the edge of receiving support from children's social care services or in the process of being referred to children's services
  - ii) Adopted children, those at risk of becoming NEET( 'not in employment, education or training')
  - iii) Those living in temporary accommodation
  - iv) Those who are young carers
  - v) Those who may have difficulty engaging with remote education at home (for example due to lack of devices or quiet space to study)
  - vi) Care leavers
  - vii) Others at the provider and local authority's discretion including pupils and students who need to attend to receive support to manage risks to their mental health

## 3. Children of Critical Workers

Parents whose work is critical to the coronavirus (COVID-19) and EU transition response include those who work in health and social care and in other key sectors outlined in the following sections. Children with at least one parent or carer who is a critical worker can go to school or college if required but parents and carers should keep their children at home if they can. Critical workers are those who are employed in the following areas:

- a) Health and social care;
- b) Education and childcare;

- c) Key public services;
- d) Local and national government;
- e) Food and other necessary goods;
- f) Public safety and national security;
- g) Transport and border;
- h) Utilities, communication and financial services.

#### **4. Childcare Places**

Stamford Green Primary School and Nursery has deemed that in order to provide safe provision for the children and staff, as well as accommodating other children, as per government guidance, there will be 20 childcare places per year group. In Y4 if necessary, we will operate two childcare classes as this is our 'bulge' class year group. Should the number of staff available change, Stamford Green Primary School and Nursery may need to alter the number of places available and this will be at their discretion and the Headteacher's decision will be final.

#### **5. Allocation of Places**

Stamford Green Primary School will allocate places during school closure and partial opening in the following order:

- a) Both parents of the child requiring a childcare place, are critical workers, or where a parent is a single parent, they are a critical worker, as outlined in section 3. In addition to this, if there is someone in the family home that can safely care for the child, then they should stay at home.
- b) The child is a vulnerable child as outlined in section 2.
- c) The parent of the child is a member of staff at Stamford Green Primary School and Nursery. In addition to this, if there is someone in the family home that can safely care for the child, then they should stay at home.
- d) One parent of the child is a critical worker as outlined in section 2. In addition to this, if there is someone in the family home that can safely care for the child, then they should stay at home. Places under this criteria will be allocated on a first come first served basis each week when the booking form is sent home and parents return their request.

#### **6. Application for Places**

Parents should apply for places as follows:

- a) Parents who think they fall within the critical worker category above, should apply for a place by completing the critical worker form available from [pa@stamford-green.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:pa@stamford-green.surrey.sch.uk). They should only then apply if, based on their business continuity arrangements, their specific role is necessary for the continuation of this essential public service.
- b) Evidence must be provided by each parent in the form of an identification badge or company letter to indicate they are a critical/key worker.
- c) Each week a booking form will be sent out and the requirements for the following week must be given by the date outlined in the email. Any requests received after this

date will be allocated after the criteria in section 5 has been applied to the initial requests.

- d) A place at the childcare provision will only be available for the days the parent is actually in work and proof may be asked for.
- e) The number of children requiring provision on any given day will vary and places will be allocated according to the criteria outlined in section 5. Therefore a place may not be available for every child on every day requested. Parents will be advised if their child does not have a place. This will vary on a weekly basis.
- f) Admission to the childcare provision is at the school's discretion and each application will be looked at on an individual basis.

## 7. **Priority Groups**

Stamford Green Primary School and Nursery has the flexibility to make decisions based on the school's circumstances and how these pupils are supervised, continue to learn and are best supported in school.