

21st March 2020

Wellsway Multi Academy Trust - Essential Worker Child Care Provision

Dear Parent/Carer,

It has become apparent that there is a degree of confusion about the child care provision that the education service has been asked to provide as part of the country's effort to slow the spread of the coronavirus. The purpose of this letter is to help clarify the situation and to ask for your co-operation.

The clear message from government is:

“YOU SHOULD ONLY SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL IF YOU HAVE TO, BECAUSE YOUR WORK IS CRITICAL TO OUR COVID-19 RESPONSE. IF YOU ARE ABLE TO KEEP YOUR CHILD AT HOME YOU SHOULD”

This is a part of our national response to ensure the NHS can cope. The service that schools are providing, during the period of school closure, is not education. This service is child care of last resort. The safest place for your child to be is at home when you can control their social distancing. Wherever possible, children should not be mixing with other children outside of their family.

Do not use this service unless your work is critical to the COVID-19 response. We need to make sure we can provide a service for critical workers. We also need to ensure that we do not have large numbers of children together that puts them, and our staff, at risk.

If you can make other arrangements to have your child looked after we would ask you to do so, in support of those essential workers who have no other childcare options available. This will help us to maintain adequate staffing levels throughout the period of closure and ensure that we do not have too many children together in one space.

We are proud to be doing our bit by providing this service. It will help parents/carers who work in critical services get to work, to keep us safe and save lives.

I hope this clarifies the situation and I would like to thank you in anticipation of your support. If you really do need to use this service, do not hesitate to do so. If you don't and can make other arrangements that will really help.

Thank you for your understanding and thank you for what you are doing, as an essential worker, to help our country get through this crisis.

Yours sincerely,



Andrea Arlidge
Chief Executive