

**Members of the Trust:****STEP South London**

Angel Oak Academy  
Applegarth Academy  
David Livingstone Academy  
La Fontaine Academy  
Gonville Academy  
Heathfield Academy  
Tudor Academy  
Turnham Academy

**STEP East Sussex**

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Dear Parents and Carers,

**Update for Key Workers during the Coronavirus outbreak**

It is important that schools, colleges and other educational establishments remain safe places for children. The fewer children making the journey to school, and the fewer children in educational settings, the lower the risk that the virus can spread and infect vulnerable individuals in wider society.

Yesterday we wrote to you explaining that from Monday 23rd March, our school might be open for parents who are 'key workers' in line with most recent government guidelines:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision>

Government guidance also makes clear that **if one or both parents are a key worker and you are able to keep your child at home then this should be your priority**. There is also an expectation that if your child can be cared for to avoid unnecessary travel then this too should be an option for you. However, if one or both parents are a key worker and you can't keep your child at home, then you are able to send your child to school from 9am - 3pm. If this is the case, then please email your school office. We want to ensure that as a 'key worker' you are able to fulfil your work commitments, especially at this crucial time.

**Key worker priority categories:**

- Health and social care
- Education and childcare
- Key public services
- Local and national government
- Food and other necessary goods
- Public safety and national security
- Transport
- Utilities, communication and finance

If you think your employment falls within the categories above and you would like to send your child to school, then you should confirm with your employer. They will be able to confirm that, based on their business continuity arrangements, your specific role is necessary for the continuation of an essential public service.

Please remember a few key principles:

- 1. If it is at all possible for children to be at home, then they should be.**
2. Parents should not rely for childcare upon those who are advised to be in the stringent social distancing category such as grandparents or family members with underlying medical conditions.
3. Parents should also do everything they can to ensure children are not mixing socially in a way which can continue to spread the virus. They should observe the same social distancing principles as adults.

**Easter Holidays**

I am aware that some guidance has been issued around schools opening for part of the Easter holidays. We will write to you next week outlining if this will be possible, as this will be dependent upon enough staff being in good health to open the school safely.