



Key Worker Childcare

April 2020

As a number of staff and families had been advised to self-isolate by the PHA and in line with government legislation and to limit the spread of infection Omagh County PS is closed this week.

However, we do realise that it is vitally important our essential key workers are able to attend work.

We have been working with the Education Authority to ensure that when families need childcare we are able to facilitate this or provide alternative arrangements.

Where possible children will be looked after on site in Omagh County PS, where this is not viable due to reduced availability of teaching and non-teaching staff or cleaning staff, children will attend another local school where they will be supervised by a member of Omagh County PS teaching or non-teaching staff.

Where Omagh County PS staff are unavailable they will be supervised by staff from other local schools or EA staff.

It is imperative that this is not abused as it puts everyone's life at risk and should only be used as the absolute last resort. Parents are reminded-

- To ensure strict health and hygiene measures and social distancing, places will be limited
- Parents must be key workers- priority will be given to NHS staff and critical key workers
- Parents must be out at work while their child(ren) is in childcare - a key worker working from home is not viable for a place.
- Where there are siblings in a family they should be kept together to limit spread of infection- an older sibling or family member may be able to look after them or where there are younger children families may be able to avail of the Home Childcare Scheme.

I know some of our NHS and front line staff have been in touch and do not know if or when they might need support - we are in a very fluid and unprecedented time and we appreciate this and will work with you and support as much as we can. If you need childcare-

1. Email jfunston506@c2kni.net or adempsey642@c2kni.net or ring 02882242642 or send a message through the PTFA Facebook page
2. If you get no reply please go to the EA website (www.eani.org.uk) and place a Key Worker School Placement Request - an EA employee will then contact you re providing a place in a local school.

Can I also thank all our parents for your responsible approach to schools as childcare facilitators. So many of you who I been talking to have so rightly said you want your children home safe and sound with you and that school will be your very last resort - we know and appreciate that, but likewise we appreciate the essential work you as essential key workers are undertaking and we will support you as much as we can.

You will also need to complete the following Key Worker form and email it to jfunston506@c2kni.net or adempsey642@c2kni.net

Free School Meals

As a result of school closures due to the Coronavirus outbreak, the Minister for Education has agreed to make payment to families who have been assessed as eligible for free schools.

If you have already submitted your bank details and they have not changed payment should be made within the next seven to ten working days.

For any queries email MealsandUniforms-Omagh@eani.org.uk or go to www.eani.org.uk

Home School Learning

Dare I ask, how is it going?

Don't panic if you are not getting as much as you thought done or if you are still getting used to getting into a new routine.

Keep encouraging your children to read or listen to stories - this is most important of all and focusing on the Literacy and Numeracy teachers are providing weekly - everything else is to help you keep children motivated and interested in learning.

Each day on the PTFA Facebook page we will put up an activity or task or something you might find useful.

Social media has millions of things to keep your children busy until they are 21.....digging a drill in the garden, weeding or planting flowers, learning how to cook, name spring flowers - it is all learning and encouraging children to be inquisitive and learn.

P.A.T.H.S.



We are conscious that we are having a bit of a social media overload and so we have been trying not to overuse our PTFA Facebook page.

We have instead added things to our school website - PASTORAL CARE section. We are also trying to expand our PATHS area so that we can put up more PATHS resources and links.

Until then if you look on Facebook for PATHSEdUK you will find a lovely study guide how you can use the Stick Man by Julia Donaldson and Fantastic Mr Fox by Roald Dahl to develop social and emotional learning.

INTO Film



I bet none of us are complaining of having to pay for a TV licence at the minute. Let's face it we are all watching more TV and films than usual - either to distract ourselves from what is going on all around us, to keep the children entertained or as an enjoyable family activity. INTO Film (www.intofim.org) is a great website. Under resources there are Fifty Film Guides to use at Home which suggests films for different age groups as well as whole family viewing, but then has discussion points and activities which you do alongside it

- ✓ Talking and Listening
- ✓ Oral Comprehension
- ✓ Writing a review

Those of you who attended Film Club with Mr Crozier will already be familiar with this. Happy viewing!

Other useful links

**INTO
FILM**

Scripture Union NI can be found on Facebook. Each week they are delivering an assembly. At present we are putting these up as a link on our PTFA Facebook page, but hope to be able to link these to our school website.

Also for those of you who go to Bible Club in school or Five Day Clubs over the holidays Child Evangelism Fellowship there is WONDERSURF, which has stories, videos and adventures.

We are all in this together

We are all in this together. Please do contact your child's teacher if you have any questions at all.

Please do remember if there is anything we as a school community can help you with or if we can direct you to someone or an organisation who may be able to help, don't be afraid to ask.

Jill

*we're all
IN THIS
together*



COVID 19 INTERIM DATA COLLECTION
OMAGH COUNTY PS
CHILDCARE TO ASSIST FRONT LINE/EMERGENCY STAFF

Omagh County PS will be open from Monday 6th April, when required, **SOLELY** for parents who work within the key worker categories **AND** who have exhausted all other childcare provision for their family.

Name of Pupil (s)

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Parental Information:

If 2 parents or adults reside in the house as a family unit, the name of both adults and their occupations must be declared.

	Name of Parent 1	Name of Parent 2
Name		
Occupation		
Employer		
Working Hours		

Reason for childcare application:

We understand that you will only make this request as a last resort.

(It is essential you explain why childcare at school is necessary for you)

Temporary Contact Numbers: - all three must be completed

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Any medical conditions/allergies/ Special Educational Needs staff need to know about?



After taking advice the following arrangements MUST be followed to try and ensure that Omagh County Primary School can remain open for Key workers families and to support the children;

****I (please insert you name) am in agreement with the following arrangements**

Failure to insert your name means your application will be void.

- All transport to and from school is the responsibility of the parent/carer.
- Only pupils that have had confirmation of attendance can attend.
- If your child requires Medication this will be transported with the child on a daily basis.
- Arrive at the front entrance/drop off area between 9.00 and 9.05am (no earlier). On arrival please wait in your car outside the entrance hall until a staff member indicates that you can come forward. (or??)
- Each child will have their temperature taken and hands sanitised before entering the building.
- If your child has a temperature you must take your child home immediately and not return for two weeks. We insist that you follow Public Health advice.
- If you or a member of your family/household has the symptoms the child must not attend.
- Parents and carers must not enter the building at any time.

- All children must bring their home school learning packs that they can work independently on. Activities provided in school will be of a child-care and supervision nature.
- Each child must bring their own stationary- including colouring pencils etc
- Each child must bring in their own water bottle, snacks and packed lunch in a sealed clearly labelled lunch box.
- Each child needs to wear a t-shirt or short sleeved shirt to allow for regular handwashing.
- If your child has long hair please ensure it is tied back.
- On returning from the School and each morning please ensure that you child showers and changes their clothing, washing whatever they have worn.
- Parents and carers must arrive at 3.00pm to collect their child. They must wait in the car or on the steps and a staff member will escort the child to the front door.
- Please respect social distancing for our staff and parents/carers you meet in the car park.
- This provision will be open on a day to day assessment, note that it may be closed on a moment's notice if we have no staff to safely operate. The staff are committed to stay open as long as we can but we also must follow the Public Health advice.

These arrangements may be reviewed at any time following new advice or issues that arise.

Thank you for your support and following the above. Stay safe Jill

Digital Signature:

Please return to jfunston506@c2kni.net

or

adempsey642@c2kni.net