Dear Parent

As you are aware schools were closed for pupils on Friday the 20th March. The Department subsequently then requested that schools provide child care support for parents who are key workers in the fight against the coronavirus and for vulnerable children.

Over the last couple of days both the Minister and the Department have clarified the issue as follows;

The Education Minister stated yesterday that schools were, ***‘opening to cater for children of at least one key worker parent to facilitate them getting to work to fight the virus.***’ He added, ***‘but only where there is no other viable option to make other arrangements. If you can use an alternative don’t send your child to school.’***

The Department of Education issued the following statement through their twitter account.

***Only send your child to school if you are a key worker who has no other viable option. If you can make other arrangements do not send your child to school. Principals/school staff are working hard to manage this very difficult situation and ensure that children are safe.***

The advice therefore is that the safest place for your child is at home.

If you feel however that you have no other option but to request a place in the school, the following arrangements will apply;

* This provision will be from 9.00am – 3.00pm and will commence on Wednesday the 25th March.
* Children who attend will be catered for in our dining hall. The space in this room will allow us to ensure that the guidelines with regards to social distancing are adhered too.
* Supervision will be provided by teachers and or classroom assistants.
* There are no school buses
* If your child or anyone in your family has any of the symptoms associated with Covid-19 we ask that you do not send your child in.

If at any point in the days or weeks ahead, we cannot provide sufficient staff to cover this arrangement we will make contact with another school so your child can avail of the provision you have requested.

If you wish to apply for a place, please fill in the form and return to myself before **12.00 noon tomorrow Tuesday 24th March.**

These are challenging times. I ask you all to continue to follow the advice of the Public Health Agency which includes good personal hygiene and social distancing.

Take care and keep safe

Mr Liam Magee

**REQUEST FOR CHILD CARE PROVISION**

Pupil Name:

Parent Name:

Work Number:

Mobile Number:

Please return to

Mr Liam Magee Email: lmagee459@c2kni.net

**PLEASE DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL UNTIL YOU HAVE RECEIVED OFFICIAL CONFIRMATION OF A PLACE BY EMAIL.**

**THIS IS TO ENSURE SAFE SOCIAL DISTANCING ARRANGEMENTS ARE IN PLACE.**

CRITICAL- Schools limited opening to cater for children of at least ONE KEY WORKER parent to facilitate them getting to work to fight the virus BUT ONLY where there is NO OTHER VIABLE OPTION to make other arrangements.If you can use an alternative don’t send your child to school