



Kidbrooke Park Road  
London SE3 9PX

t: 020 8856 0115  
f: 020 8331 3004  
[www.thomastallischool.com](http://www.thomastallischool.com)

Head: Carolyn Roberts  
e: [headteacher@thomastallis.org.uk](mailto:headteacher@thomastallis.org.uk)

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Dear Parent or Carer

You will be aware that before Easter the government published its official list of critical workers. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

Tallis has remained open for some of the children of these critical workers who felt unable to look after these students at home. I think it is fair to say that the school experience for these students has been a very different one, supported by a very small number of key staff, with enforced social distancing at all times and limited subject teaching.

The government's main priority remains that students should stay at home unless there is no alternative. However, it remains important to support our critical services in such a crisis, whilst continuing to support the overall priority of social distancing. So, for the vast majority of students the school will remain closed after Easter. However, the school will remain open for the students under the following circumstances,

1. They are a child of a critical worker included on the list provided below AND
2. The specific role of their parents is necessary for the continuation of the public service AND
3. They do not think their child is able to remain isolated at home because they are too young or too vulnerable OR
4. They would have to be placed in the care of a vulnerable adult i.e. over 70 or with a pre-existing condition

Whilst it is important to support the huge national effort against Covid 19, it is also right that I fully support the principal of social distancing; for the interests of our students, staff and the national as a whole. Therefore, please do not take offence that we will be asking for supporting evidence to ascertain 1 to 4 above. I apologise if you have already completed this, but if you are intending on sending your child into school, please complete the form below and return it to our designated safeguarding lead Fran Kamei, at [fkamei@thomastallis.org.uk](mailto:fkamei@thomastallis.org.uk)

**It's important to do this even if you previously filled out a form for last term.**

Names of children at Tallis:

Name of keyworker parent or guardian:

Occupation and specific role of keyworker

Place of work, telephone number and line manager

Occupation of other household parent/guardian or non vulnerable adult (if applicable):

Reason for sending your child to school:

#### **Key workers:**

##### **Health and social care**

This includes but is not limited to doctors, nurses, midwives, paramedics, social workers, care workers, and other frontline health and social care staff including volunteers; the support and specialist staff required to maintain the UK's health and social care sector; those working as part of the health and social care supply chain, including producers and distributors of medicines and medical and personal protective equipment.

##### **Education and childcare**

This includes childcare, support and teaching staff, social workers and those specialist education professionals who must remain active during the COVID-19 response to deliver this approach.

##### **Key public services**

*inquisitive • collaborative • persistent • disciplined • imaginative*

This includes those essential to the running of the justice system, religious staff, charities and workers delivering key frontline services, those responsible for the management of the deceased, and journalists and broadcasters who are providing public service broadcasting.

**Local and national government**

This only includes those administrative occupations essential to the effective delivery of the COVID-19 response, or delivering essential public services, such as the payment of benefits, including in government agencies and arms length bodies.

**Food and other necessary goods**

This includes those involved in food production, processing, distribution, sale and delivery, as well as those essential to the provision of other key goods (for example hygienic and veterinary medicines).

**Public safety and national security**

This includes police and support staff, Ministry of Defence civilians, contractor and armed forces personnel (those critical to the delivery of key defence and national security outputs and essential to the response to the COVID-19 pandemic), fire and rescue service employees (including support staff), National Crime Agency staff, those maintaining border security, prison and probation staff and other national security roles, including those overseas.

**Transport**

This includes those who will keep the air, water, road and rail passenger and freight transport modes operating during the COVID-19 response, including those working on transport systems through which supply chains pass.

**Utilities, communication and financial services**

This includes staff needed for essential financial services provision (including but not limited to workers in banks, building societies and financial market infrastructure), the oil, gas, electricity and water sectors (including sewerage), information technology and data infrastructure sector and primary industry supplies to continue during the COVID-19 response, as well as key staff working in the civil nuclear, chemicals, telecommunications (including but not limited to network operations, field engineering, call centre staff, IT and data infrastructure, 999 and 111 critical services), postal services and delivery, payments providers and waste disposal sectors.

If workers think they fall within the critical categories above, they should confirm with their employer that, based on their business continuity arrangements, their specific role is necessary for the continuation of this essential public service.

Yours sincerely

*Ashley Tomlin*  
*Deputy Head*