

COVID Attendance Policy, Addendum

Introduction

This document has been written to clarify the school's position with regards to the attendance of pupils during COVID19 lockdown. It draws upon the guidance and requirements from the DfE re: provision of places, legal frameworks, H&S requirements, and, of paramount importance, the principles of keeping the whole school community as safe as possible. The policy has also been discussed with senior figures on RAF Leeming Station Executive who have agreed the school's approach which mirrors that of station.

Eligible Pupils

Vulnerable Children

Vulnerable pupils are defined according to the full list available [here](#). Broadly, they fall into three main categories:

- 1) Vulnerable according to documented educational need – i.e. children with an EHCP.
- 2) Vulnerable according to safety / welfare – children under child protection plans, child in need, or looked after pupils.
- 3) Children with additional vulnerabilities *as identified by the educational provider* (i.e. the school). This will usually be as a result of a *combination of factors*, such as: pupils receiving support from Social Care and / or Early Help, pupils on the edge of such support or having recently received this, disadvantaged pupils, pupils at risk of becoming NEET, pupils with clinically diagnosed conditions (including mental health) and pupils with specific additional needs who are on the SEND register.
 - a. Note: it is highly unlikely that a pupil with only one of the identified vulnerabilities above will qualify for a place in school, and the 'additional vulnerabilities' criteria is one which is defined by the school. This will be done on a case by case basis.

The government have also suggested that lack of access to devices can qualify a child for attendance at the school. This will not be deemed to be a factor for Leeming, as the school has a full bank of laptops available for home use, and staff are willing to deliver these to parents' homes and support their setup if needed. Please contact the office if required.

If parents are struggling to access the internet, school should be able to support with the provision of additional mobile data. If this is required, please do contact the office.

Critical Workers' Children

The full list of activities deemed critical can be found in the link above. In addition, on station, the RAF have instituted a robust system by which all critical workers are issued with a letter via their chain of command. Only service personnel with such a letter will be deemed to be critical workers. Evidence from other (civilian) critical worker sectors will also be requested where appropriate.

The school's policy on accepting the children of critical workers is in line with the directive from the Department for Education (published 8th January 2021) that even if parents are critical workers and the child is eligible for a school place "*parents and carers should keep their children at home if they can.*" This would include those for whom another (non-critical) parent is able to care for the child at home, or those who have other appropriate childcare options.