

Date: 13-01-2021  
Your Ref: N/A  
Our Ref: N/A



Children's Services

Parent/Carer

First Floor  
Town Hall  
Le Mans Crescent  
Bolton  
BL1 1RU

Tel: 01204 331208

[www.bolton.gov.uk](http://www.bolton.gov.uk)

Dear Parent/Carer,

**Re: School Places for Children of Critical Workers**

All schools in Bolton are providing education to all students, with many being taught remotely while the buildings are open for many vulnerable children and children of critical workers.

Schools are receiving a large number of requests for their child to be taught within the school premises from parents of critical workers. Schools have been overwhelmed with the extremely high demand for places – putting greater pressure on schools in delivering a remote offer, and in ensuring they can adequately staff schools, when staff have to self-isolate or are absent for other reasons. Schools will, however, continue to provide high quality remote learning and will ensure the pastoral needs of children and young people are met as best they can. And we thank you for your support and understanding as this is a challenging time for all.

Schools are following national guidance and making places available wherever possible.

For your child to be considered for a place, you will need to provide evidence from your employer that you are a critical worker. The government guidance, can be found [here](#).

Depending on their individual risk assessments and staffing capacity, schools may need to limit the number of available places to limit transmission and ensure the safety of their children and staff.

All schools will be offering online learning for children who don't attend for face-to-face teaching.

This week we have already seen a number of positive tests for staff and children in schools resulting in further children and staff isolating.

Whilst we fully understand the pressures you are under; we would strongly request you to only request places where they are absolutely necessary. We know and understand that as parents and carers you are doing everything you can to support your children and their schools and we acknowledge that it is very challenging for families in the current lock-down, especially juggling your own workloads, whilst having children at home during the day.

Bernie Brown - Director of Children's Services



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Yours Sincerely



**Bernie Brown**  
**Director of Children's Services**



**Helen Lowey**  
**Director of Public Health**

Bernie Brown - Director of Children's Services



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