Date/**Dyddiad** 14th December 2020

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VALE of GLAMORGAN
BRO MORGANNWG

My Ref/**Cyf** PH/JMJ

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s),

You recently received a letter from your school explaining the end-of-term arrangements. On Friday afternoon, there was a further announcement from Welsh Government directing local authorities to make urgent provision for high priority critical workers for the last week of term. This is to support front line workers who are essential in the fight against Covid-19.

For this period, in the run up the Christmas, critical workers are defined as:

- Blue light workers, including NHS, Police and Fire Service staff
- Social care staff (including care workers)
- Front line childcare or education staff

If both parents (or one in a single parent family) are critical workers and you do not have childcare in place for your primary aged child for the last 2 days of term, can you please advise your child's school by **12 midday on Tuesday 15th December** of your needs**.** Applications cannot be approved after this time unless there are exceptional circumstances.

Although a hot meal will not be provided on the last 2 days of term, a cold lunch option will be available. Please let your school know if you require a meal for each day your child is attending.

This provision is not available on any INSET days at the end of this term which your school has set and notified you of prior to 27 November 2020.

Please only ask for this provision if your child attends a nursery, primary or special school.

In order to ensure that we mitigate all risks and keep everyone safe, please do not request that your child attends school if you are not scheduled to work and have not yet exhausted all possible childcare avenues. Also, please do not apply for this provision if you or your partner are able to work from home. Access to this provision should be seen as a last resort.

Our aim is to ensure that we enable those on the front line to continue to undertake their duties, whilst also mitigating the risks to our children and staff in school settings. Please do not send your child to school if you have already been told that your child is required to self-isolate or if any family member displays Covid symptoms or needs to self-isolate.

Thank you for your contribution to supporting our communities in the fight against Covid-19.

Yours sincerely,

Paula Ham
Director of Learning and Skills