

Monmouthshire County Council
PO Box 106, Caldicot,

NP26 9AN

Cyngor Sir Fynwy

Blwch SP106, Cil-y-Coed

NP26 9AN

Tel/Ffôn: 01633 644644

Fax/Ffacs: 01633 644666

E-Mail/Ebost:

Web/Gwefan: www.monmouthshire.gov.uk

Dear Parents and Carers,

These are unprecedented times for all of us and as a consequence we have had to make some changes to the operation of the childcare hubs that I wrote to you about on Friday.  This has been caused by the significant government regulations announced by the Prime Minister and First Minister of Wales last night.  These focus on a need to rigorously enforce social distancing regulations and eliminate all unnecessary time away from home.

To that end we are proposing some changes to the provision of childcare for critical workers:

1. From Wednesday 25th March **both** parents in a family (where there are two parents) must be critical workers to access the childcare offer
2. From Wednesday 25 March, to achieve a better distribution of pupils all pupils in the Chepstow area who have previously attended Thornwell or Pembroke **should now attend Thornwell Primary School**.

We have to remember that the teachers and support staff who are working in our hubs are a vital part of the response to COVID-19 and keeping everyone in our Hubs safe is critical.  Each of the Hubs are developing very clear regulations and rules to ensure that the highest standards of cleanliness, I would ask that you remind your children of the importance of this.

Pupils eligible for FSM

From Wednesday25 March 2020, we will be able to provide a hot lunch option to all of our children who are eligible for a free school meal.  This will be made available from Thornwell School. This will be available between 12pm and 2pm.

Secondary aged pupils who are eligible for free school meals and are not in the school based childcare hub should collect their lunch from their normal school at the normal time.

We will be launching a new registration form at the end of this week.  Please check [www.monmouthshire.gov.uk](http://www.monmouthshire.gov.uk) on Thursday.

Yours sincerely

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**Will McLean**

**Chief Officer**

**Children and Young People**