

Dear Parents,

Thank you very much for responding to our question about Easter Holiday provision. This has been very helpful. Thank you also for all the positive feedback! We are really appreciative of your comments. The Local Authority requires our information so that they know the situation locally and can plan their strategy for supporting families and schools. I also wanted to know so that I could inform you all as soon as possible about what The Orchard is doing.

There are currently 6 to 9 children on average accessing the school provision across the school week.

In response to our survey there is only 1 child whose parents are requesting a definite full- time requirement for the Easter holidays. There is a further 1 child who needs 1 day one week and two days the other week. There is one further child who may require provision but this is uncertain due to work demands changing due to the health crisis. The remaining families have made alternative arrangements.

On the basis of these numbers and the fact that on many days there might only be one child attending I am afraid we will not be able to offer Easter holiday provision at The Orchard. I am sorry not to be able to support you in this way but know many of you have been able to find alternative arrangements and had already planned for the Easter holiday period away from school.

According to the DFE guidance the Easter holiday offer is strictly for key worker families, although the ongoing school offer is for families where children have EHCPs, are vulnerable, or have key worker parents. In this respect the Local Authority has a responsibility in providing or sign posting provision. I have informed them of our low up- take and that we will not be able to offer an Easter holiday club. As soon as I receive any further information about any local provision I will inform you.

We will, of course, be starting the school provision again on Monday 20th April for key worker children and children with EHCPs. I hope that you are all keeping well. We have loved having your children and will look forward to seeing them after the Easter break.

With very best wishes,

Yours Sincerely,

Carol Rusby

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