



House of Commons
London SW1A 0AA

Ref: ZA11098

Vicky Ford MP
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Children and Families
Department for Education
Sanctuary Buildings
20 Great Smith Street
London
SW1P 3BT

26th March 2020

Dear Vicky Ford MP

Re: Nursery Closures across Chester

I am writing on behalf of numerous constituents who have contacted me regarding the closure of childcare centres as a result of Coronavirus.

For critical front-line workers, the closure of their child's nursery or daycare centre will prevent them from going to work and carrying out crucial jobs for the continued functioning of our society. These closures are particularly problematic for single parents or families where both parents are required to work in front-line jobs.

According to official Government guidance, schools, colleges, nurseries, childminders and other registered childcare settings are to remain open for children of critical workers and vulnerable children where they can. Many of my constituents qualify as front-line staff, and yet are still unable to send their children to childcare centres due to closures. These individuals are vital in the fight against Coronavirus.

I would be grateful if you could outline what action the Government is taking to ensure that nurseries follow the government guidance and remain open for the children of critical workers and vulnerable children.

Thank you for your consideration and I look forward to hearing from you in due course.

Yours sincerely,

Christian Matheson MP

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