



## **FAMILY AGREEMENT FOR YOUNG ADULTS WITH DOWNS SYNDROME**

Following the updated guidance from the government on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2020, Greenvale School has created this agreement for families of young adults with Downs Syndrome who wish for their son/daughter to continue to access school during the national lock down. Families are asked to review the guidance outlined below and to review our updated risk assessments (available on our website) before making an informed decision on this matter.

### **National Guidance**

Government guidance released on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November advises that adults with Downs Syndrome have now been added to the 'Extremely Clinically Vulnerable' category and should therefore remain at home during the national lock down.

Review the document in full

[https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2020/1200/pdfs/uksi\\_20201200\\_en.pdf](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2020/1200/pdfs/uksi_20201200_en.pdf).

### **Government Legislation (2020 No. 1200, Public Health England)**

*The Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) (England)*

Within this document, it states that there are exceptions to leaving the home that include, 'for the purposes of education or training' and for 'respite care being provided for a vulnerable person or for a person with a disability'.

Review the document in full

[https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2020/1200/pdfs/uksi\\_20201200\\_en.pdf](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2020/1200/pdfs/uksi_20201200_en.pdf).

### **Carol Boys, Chief Executive, Down's Syndrome Association writes,**

*"The advice for people on the clinically extremely vulnerable list as we go into a national lockdown in England may not be called 'shielding' anymore but it is almost as severe as shielding was in the spring. The fact that the guidance is advisory rather than mandatory also seems to have been lost in translation. There is no clarity about how the 'guidance' should be implemented"*

Review the statement in full <https://www.downs-syndrome.org.uk/news/challenging-times/>



**Minister Ford's letter to the SEND sector 9th Nov**

*“The DHSC guidance for clinically extremely vulnerable children is not compulsory, although parents are strongly advised to follow the guidance in order to keep their child safe. However, in some exceptional circumstances parents whose children are clinically extremely vulnerable may need to balance the health risk with the wider implications associated with the child or young person not attending their usual education setting and accessing the support that would normally be delivered through this placement. This may be based on the level of support that a child or young person needs, their ability to access remote education and additional services such as therapies, and the impact on wellbeing for the wider family of their child being at home full time. In these circumstances, parents, education settings, health professionals and local authorities should work together to agree the best arrangement for that individual child or young person and their family to ensure that they continue to receive the support they need.”*

**Agreement**

Please review the guidance, legislation and our updated risk assessments (available on our website) carefully. If after careful consideration you wish your son/daughter to continue to access school, please sign the endorsement below.

I have assessed the risk to my son/daughter by reviewing the government guidance, legislation and the site risk assessment and would like my son/daughter to continue to attend school.

I understand that the Greenvale School and all of the stakeholders and families will continue to follow national guidance relating to self-isolating, testing and the reporting of positive cases of coronavirus.

**Name of young person:**

**Signed by parent/carer:**

**Date:**

**Signed on behalf of Greenvale School :**

**Date:**