**Garnock Community Campus**

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20th March 2020

Good morning parents/carers,

 John Swinney wrote to us today to advise of his decision that all schools and local authority early learning and childcare settings should close to children and young people with effect from 1700hrs on Friday 20 March 2020, with the exception of any critical provision to protect three specific groups.

The default assumption should be that almost all children and young people will not attend educational settings and that learning and teaching will be undertaken remotely, supported by those teachers working remotely on an ongoing basis. We have already begun to develop plans with our secondary sector colleagues to address the needs of one group, namely those young people completing coursework for national qualifications. The central team is working to develop a plan to enable us to deliver educational provision to the children of key workers who cannot make their own childcare arrangements within the community.

The third and final group is the children described as vulnerable by the Deputy First Minister. This group will include children on the child protection register, children who are looked after at home and those with complex additional support needs.

In addition, plans are underway to ensure those who are in receipt of free school meals continue to receive this entitlement.

Tomorrow, you will receive a link to an online form, if you need to tell us that you are a key worker, and you require access to learning and childcare provision.

Kind regards,

 Caroline Amos and Andrew McClelland

 Heads of Service