



Bure Valley School

Part of the Aylsham Learning Federation

Friday 15th May 2020

Dear Parents and carers,

When we were asked to close schools back in March due to the COVID-19 crisis, a system was put into place for the children of key workers and vulnerable children to access provision at school so that parents were able to continue to work.

This guidance and the definition of key workers has not changed but I am aware that for some of you your circumstances may have changed and where you may have been able to manage childcare before you are not able to do so now.

List of key worker categories

Health and social care

This includes but is not limited to doctors, nurses, midwives, paramedics, social workers, care workers, and other frontline health and social care staff including volunteers; the support and specialist staff required to maintain the UK's health and social care sector; those working as part of the health and social care supply chain, including producers and distributors of medicines and medical and personal protective equipment.

Education and childcare

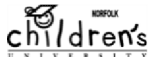
This includes nursery and teaching staff, social workers and those specialist education professionals who must remain active during the COVID-19 response to deliver this approach.

Key public services

This includes those essential to the running of the justice system, religious staff, charities and workers delivering key frontline services, those responsible for the management of the deceased, and journalists and broadcasters who are providing public service broadcasting.

Local and national government

This only includes those administrative occupations essential to the effective delivery of the COVID-19 response or delivering essential public services such as the payment of benefits, including in government agencies and arm's length bodies.



Executive Headteacher: Mr D Spalding B.A. (Hons) M.Ed. (Cantab)

Head of School: Mr J Olney B.A. (Hons)

Deputy Headteachers: Mrs H Howard B.A. (Hons), Mrs H Pope B.A. (Hons)

Director of Business and Community Strategy: Mrs J Tuttle Finance Director: Mrs T Colman

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Food and other necessary goods

This includes those involved in food production, processing, distribution, sale and delivery as well as those essential to the provision of other key goods (for example hygienic and veterinary medicines).

Public safety and national security

This includes police and support staff, Ministry of Defence civilians, contractor and armed forces personnel (those critical to the delivery of key defence and national security outputs and essential to the response to the COVID-19 pandemic), fire and rescue service employees (including support staff), National Crime Agency staff, those maintaining border security, prison and probation staff and other national security roles, including those overseas.

Transport

This includes those who will keep the air, water, road and rail passenger and freight transport modes operating during the COVID-19 response, including those working on transport systems through which supply chains pass.

Utilities, communication and financial services

This includes staff needed for essential financial services provision (including but not limited to workers in banks, building societies and financial market infrastructure), the oil, gas, electricity and water sectors (including sewerage), information technology and data infrastructure sector and primary industry supplies to continue during the COVID-19 response, as well as key staff working in the civil nuclear, chemicals, telecommunications (including but not limited to network operations, field engineering, call centre staff, IT and data infrastructure, 999 and 111 critical services), postal services and delivery, payments providers and waste disposal sectors.

References

Guidance for schools, colleges and local authorities on maintaining educational provision. (2020, March 19). GOV.UK.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

Vulnerable children are defined as children with an EHCP and all children with an allocated social worker such as looked after children, or children subject to child protection and family support arrangements. These children are able to access this

optional provision in school if they cannot be cared for at home. ALF schools will have contacted these families to see if they need to use this optional provision because they are unable to care for their children at home.

We would expect all families using the service to provide proof of their key worker status. This could be a photo of an id badge, letter of employment, recent wage slip or another appropriate piece of evidence to show that they are employed in a key worker role. "If workers think they fall within the critical categories above they should confirm with their employer that, based on their business continuity arrangements, their specific role is necessary for the continuation of this essential public service" (*Guidance for schools, colleges and local authorities on maintaining educational provision, 2020*).

Parents also need to be aware that we will have to limit available places and that places will be prioritised based upon the government guidance. Therefore, you are making an application for a place and we will let you know if you have been successful. We would also expect parents/carers to be very mindful of the health guidance in relation to coronavirus. We will have arrangements to isolate children should they show symptoms such as a new persistent and continuous cough and/or a temperature of 37.8°. Parents and carers will need to be able to have children picked up at short notice should they fall ill. We would then expect families to self-isolate for 14 days as per the guidance. This will help us to safeguard the health of other students and of our staff.

Parents also need to be aware that from the 1st June some pupils might be returning to school. We will need to consider whether going forward we need to keep children attending our child care separate from their peers in the main school; as government guidance states that children must be kept in separate bubbles of up to 15 pupils.

If you have already been accessing the key worker childcare provision up until this point there is no need to apply again and the provision will continue for you. However, if you believe that you fall into one of the key worker categories and you are unable to leave your children safely at home please complete the reply slip below and return to **admin@burevalley.norfolk.sch.uk by Wednesday 20th May at 3pm** to help us plan how we can support you.

Thank you again for your patience and support at this challenging time and for taking the time to read through this letter and accompanying guidance carefully.

Yours faithfully,

Mr Jamie Olney

Head of School

Key worker childcare reply slip

Name of child / children and class/tutor Group:

ALF Schools attended: _____

Complete as appropriate (list the category you fall into):

A. I am a single parent key worker working in:

B. One parent/carer is a key worker working in:

C. We are both key worker parents/carers working in the following categories:

and
