

# Court Fields School

Achieve | Belong | Participate

Mantle Street  
WELLINGTON  
Somerset  
TA21 8SW



Tel: 01823 664201  
Fax: 01823 660812  
sch.552@educ.somerset.gov.uk  
www.courtfields.net  
<https://twitter.com/CourtFieldsSch>

Acting Head of School: Mrs P Matthews

Executive Head: Mrs S Watson

Ref: Keyworker Letter to Parents 200320

20<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents & Carers,

Further to the Prime Minister's announcement regarding school closure on Wednesday we now have further information regarding 'key worker' status and the provision that may be required for them. Below is the information published this morning by the Government:

*As a country, we all need to do what we can to reduce the spread of the COVID-19 virus. That is why the government has given clear guidance on self-isolation, household isolation and social distancing.*

*And the most recent scientific advice on how to further limit the spread of COVID-19 is clear. If children can stay safely at home, they should, to limit the chance of the virus spreading.*

*That is why the government has asked parents to keep their children at home, wherever possible, and asked schools to remain open only for those children who absolutely need to attend.*

*It is important to underline that schools, colleges and other educational establishments remain safe places for children. But the fewer children making the journey to school, and the fewer children in educational settings, the lower the risk that the virus can spread and infect vulnerable individuals in wider society.*

*Schools are, therefore, being asked to continue to provide care for a limited number of children - children who are vulnerable and children whose parents are critical to the Covid-19 response and cannot be safely cared for at home.*

*Please, therefore, follow these key principles:*

- 1. If it is at all possible for children to be at home, then they should be.*
- 2. If a child needs specialist support, is vulnerable or has a parent who is a critical worker, then educational provision will be available for them.*
- 3. Parents should not rely for childcare upon those who are advised to be in the stringent social distancing category such as grandparents, friends, or family members with underlying conditions.*
- 4. Parents should also do everything they can to ensure children are not mixing socially in a way which can continue to spread the virus. They should observe the same social distancing principles as adults.*

*If children can stay safely at home, they should, to limit the chance of the virus spreading.*

*That is why the government has asked parents to keep their children at home, wherever possible, and asked schools to remain open only for those children who absolutely need to attend.*

*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.*

*We are grateful for the work of teachers and workers in educational settings for continuing to provide for the children of the other critical workers of our country. It is an essential part of our national effort to combat this disease.*

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers#critical-workers>

#### Guidance on what roles are identified as 'key workers'

- **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 arms length bodies.
- **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.

Please use this link to complete the following simple questionnaire to enable us to fully ascertain which of our children will need to be supported over the coming weeks.

[Key Worker Questionnaire \(https://forms.gle/ar53GYgbCqMocTeS8\)](https://forms.gle/ar53GYgbCqMocTeS8)

As always, please do not hesitate to contact the school if you have any concerns. Please note that phone lines may be busy and our staff need to focus on planning for the school closure, so it may be easier for you to email us as follows:

- For safeguarding concerns, please use the main email address: [safeguarding@courtfields.net](mailto:safeguarding@courtfields.net)
- For ClassCharts enquiries, please use the main email address: [classcharts@courtfields.net](mailto:classcharts@courtfields.net)
- For queries regarding key worker status, please use the following email address: [keyworker@courtfields.net](mailto:keyworker@courtfields.net)
- For general enquiries, please use the main email address: [sch.552@educ.somerset.gov.uk](mailto:sch.552@educ.somerset.gov.uk).

Thank you for the support and understanding that you have shown to us at this difficult time. We will do what we can to support our community over the coming weeks. My very best wishes go out to you and your families.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Polly Matthews', written over a horizontal line.

Polly Matthews  
Acting Headteacher