



**Lealands**  
High School  
A Specialist Sports College  
*Aspire Believe Achieve*

Lealands High School  
Sundon Park Road  
Luton  
LU3 3AL

Tel: 01582 611600

Email: [admin@lealands.luton.sch.uk](mailto:admin@lealands.luton.sch.uk)

Website: [www.lealands.luton.sch.uk](http://www.lealands.luton.sch.uk)

Headteacher: Mr J Burridge BA (Hons) PGCE, MA, NPQH

Friday 20th March 2020

### **Re. Limited Provision in School from Next Week and Key Workers Children**

Dear Parent/Carer,

Whilst schools have been told to close to pupils attending by the Government for the foreseeable future, we have been asked to make provision for some groups if possible.

Our teachers, where possible, will continue to teach their timetables through Google Classroom and online methods. All students should be expected to stay at home and continue their education in this way.

Guidance for schools released at 11:51pm last night states that,

'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.'

'Schools are...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.'

'If it is at all possible for children to be at home, then they should be.'

'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.'

Guidance for parents is available at [https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers?utm\\_source=3af9bd53-8b24-49d0-92be-34d607ef773a&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm\\_content=immediate](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers?utm_source=3af9bd53-8b24-49d0-92be-34d607ef773a&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=immediate)

It is not mandatory for schools to provide any provision during the period of closure. However, like many schools, Lealands feels it has a duty to support the national effort to reduce the spread of the virus and enable key functions to continue for the benefit of the wider society. We are also particularly concerned to do everything possible for our most in need and vulnerable pupils.

You will understand that our ability to provide this limited provision is dependent on having enough staff available and with the right qualifications, including first aiders to ensure that any children in the building are kept safe.

Our teaching staff will be fully occupied setting lessons online, assessing work submitted and communicating with their classes to minimise disruption to learning. This means that there is limited capacity to provide childcare in school.

However, we will prioritise this for our students who fall into the vulnerable pupils category which form about 8% of our school population. Schools have been told that this provision should be only for up to around 10% of the school population. Significantly exceeding this proportion undermines efforts to reduce the spread of the virus and the aims of the school closures.

Students who meet the criteria and are offered a place in our limited provision during this time of school closure, will primarily complete the same online tasks as their classmates, but in a supervised setting. The normal school curriculum and facilities will not be available.

Students who have a place in this provision will be expected to attend every day and throughout the period of school closure. This is only fair to ensure that those who really need a place can have it. The limited provision will follow normal school hours.

Should students not follow expectations for behaviour in school during this period, parents will be contacted and their place removed to be offered to another family who need this.

In order to fulfil the expectations and meet the real needs of the country at this stage, we will only expect to offer key worker children provision to students in Year 7 and possibly Year 8. We would expect older students to be able to remain at home. If the school cannot accommodate a request, parents are advised to contact the Local Authority. The Government has asked Local Authorities to manage a coordinated approach and we are fully supporting this.

Before requesting key worker child provision, please consider very carefully if this is absolutely necessary for you to support the national efforts and priorities at this challenging time. In line with the Government's guidance, where you can make other arrangements and where it is at all possible to keep your children at home, this is the right and best thing to do.

We are looking at whether it is possible to extend a form of provision into the Easter holidays and we will be in touch about this in the next couple of weeks.

We are contacting families of our vulnerable pupils today in order that we can make arrangements for them as soon as possible.

We have already sent an email asking parents if they anticipate requesting key worker child provision and have received a large number of responses. This was in order to gauge the likely demand. Now that we have the final list from the Government and the awaited guidance, we are asking parents who believe they qualify and would wish to have a place for their child to complete the attached form and return it to the school by Monday 23rd March midday. We will aim to put the key worker child provision in place as soon as possible after Monday with the aim that this will begin on Tuesday 24th March.

I know that this is an anxious and difficult time for us all and we are working hard to ensure that we do what is possible in the circumstances. I am very grateful to our wonderful staff who have worked so hard to set up new systems rapidly and also helped to ensure the school has remained fully open up until the end of this week.

If you have any queries or questions, please contact us using the [admin@lealands.luton.sch.uk](mailto:admin@lealands.luton.sch.uk) address or telephone the school.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Burridge', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Mr J Burridge  
Headteacher



## Request for Key Worker Child Provision During School Closure Period

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Tutor Group: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent 1 Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent 1 Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent 2 Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent 2 Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Reason for request and why the child cannot remain at home:-

I understand that my child, if offered a place, in the limited provision for the children of essential key workers, will attend daily during normal school hours. I confirm that they are not able to stay at home or be cared for in any other way. I understand that if my child's behaviour does not meet the school's normal expectations, I will be contacted and required to remove them from the provision. Should my situation change, I will inform the school immediately.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return to School Reception or email a copy to [admin@lealands.luton.sch.uk](mailto:admin@lealands.luton.sch.uk) by Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March midday.