

GUIDANCE

Coronavirus key (critical) workers

Who is designated a key worker, if their work is critical to the COVID-19 response.

Contents

[Health and social care](#)

[Education and childcare](#)

[Key public services](#)

[Local and national government](#)

[Food and other necessary goods](#)

[Public safety and national security](#)

[Transport](#)

[Utilities, communication and financial services](#)

Health and social care workers

This includes but is not limited to:

- doctors
- nurses
- midwives
- paramedics

- social workers
- care workers
- other frontline health and social care staff including volunteers
- 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 workers

This includes:

- nursery staff
- teaching staff
- social workers
- specialist education professionals who must remain active to deliver this approach

Key public services workers

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
- journalists and broadcasters who are providing public service broadcasting

Local and national government workers

This only includes administrative occupations essential to the delivery of the COVID-19 response. Or those delivering essential public services such as payment of benefits. This includes in government agencies and arms length bodies.

Food and other necessary goods workers

This includes those involved in food:

- production
- processing
- distribution
- sale
- delivery

It also includes those essential to the provision of other key goods (for example hygienic and veterinary medicines).

Public safety and national security workers

This includes

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

Transport workers

This includes those who will keep the air, water, road and rail passenger and freight transport modes operating. It includes those working on transport systems that supply chains pass through.

Utilities, communication and financial services workers

This includes:

- staff needed for essential financial services provision. Including but not limited to workers in:
 - banks
 - building societies
 - financial market infrastructure
 - the oil, gas, electricity and water sectors (including sewerage)
 - information technology and data infrastructure sector
 - primary industry supplies
 - key staff working in the following sectors
 - 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
 - waste disposal sectors
-

RELATED

[**Education and childcare: coronavirus**](https://gov.wales/education-coronavirus) (https://gov.wales/education-coronavirus)

- [**School opening times and services: coronavirus**](https://gov.wales/how-schools-will-work-during-coronavirus-pandemic) (https://gov.wales/how-schools-will-work-during-coronavirus-pandemic)
 - [**5 things you need to know before sending your children to school or childcare \(coronavirus\)**](https://gov.wales/5-things-you-need-know-sending-your-children-school-or-childcare-coronavirus) (https://gov.wales/5-things-you-need-know-sending-your-children-school-or-childcare-coronavirus)
-

First published

27 March 2020

Last updated

27 March 2020

Part of

[Education and childcare: coronavirus](https://gov.wales/education-coronavirus) (<https://gov.wales/education-coronavirus>)

[Local authorities, housing services and social landlords: coronavirus](https://gov.wales/local-authorities-housing-services-social-landlords-coronavirus)
(<https://gov.wales/local-authorities-housing-services-social-landlords-coronavirus>)

[Staying at home and social distancing](https://gov.wales/staying-at-home-social-distancing) (<https://gov.wales/staying-at-home-social-distancing>)

[Working for the NHS and social care: coronavirus](https://gov.wales/working-for-the-nhs-and-social-care-coronavirus) (<https://gov.wales/working-for-the-nhs-and-social-care-coronavirus>)

[Your responsibilities as an employer: coronavirus](https://gov.wales/your-responsibilities-employer-coronavirus) (<https://gov.wales/your-responsibilities-employer-coronavirus>)
