

# Who may be offered childcare if schools, nursery schools, after-school centres, or other educational activities close?

MSB1542 – April 2020

In order to prevent transmission of the virus disease COVID-19, the Government or a principal of nursery schools, after-school centres, or other educational activities may decide to close.

If these activities close, certain legal guardians who are essential workers must be offered continued childcare.

You as legal guardian can report your need for childcare if you are an essential worker and provide essential services.

However, you are only entitled to childcare if you cannot make other arrangements. If there are two legal guardians and only one of you is an essential worker, the other guardian shall, as a starting point, care for the child.

## How do I know if I am an essential worker?

Your employer or principal shall, based on MSB's provisions and general guidelines on childcare for legal guardians who are essential workers, *Föreskrift och allmänna råd om omsorg för barn med vårdnadshavare i samhällsviktig verksamhet (MSBFS 2020:3 and 2020:4)*, make an assessment of whether the business is essential to society.

Your employer or principal shall also determine which employees are needed to keep the business activities running at an acceptable level.

Talk to your employer or principal to find out if you are one of the essential workers.

## What do I do if I need childcare?

If you need childcare and have not been able to make other arrangements, you shall report your need for childcare to your municipality or the principal of the school, nursery school, after-school centre, or the educational activities in question.

Your municipality or the principal will be able to provide you with information on how to report your need for childcare.

## What are essential services?

These are businesses or services that may disrupt society if they are disrupted or lost, or services needed to manage an ongoing disruption to society.

They are carried out by a great number of private and public actors.

The Government has identified 12 social sectors that include essential services:

- Energy supply
- Financial services
- Trade and industry
- Healthcare and social care
- Information and communication
- Municipal services
- Food
- Military defence
- Public administration
- Protection and security
- Social insurance
- Transport

Descriptions and examples of which businesses are considered essential within these sectors can be found in:

*Föreskrift och allmänna råd om omsorg för barn med vårdnadshavare i samhällsviktig verksamhet (MSBFS 2020:3 and 2020:4).*

Read more on the website:

[www.msb.se/foreskriftomsorg](http://www.msb.se/foreskriftomsorg)

If your municipality or the principal so requests, you may need to verify your need for childcare with a certificate from your employer or principal.

### **How far should I as legal guardian go to make 'other' arrangements for childcare?**

You should first consider the possibility of keeping your children in the home, as the purpose of school closure is to reduce the risk of infection.



Do not engage individuals from risk groups, such as older relatives, as baby-sitters!

#### **Who is the principal?**

If it is a public school or nursery school, the municipality is the principal, and if it is an independent school or nursery school, the school's board of directors may be the principal.

### **Where do I turn if I have questions?**

Questions on what applies upon school closure:

Principal of school, nursery school, after-school centre, or other educational activities.

Questions on essential services and the regulation and general guidelines on childcare for legal guardians who are essential workers:

The Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency

Website: [www.msb.se/foreskriftomsorg](http://www.msb.se/foreskriftomsorg)

E-mail: [samhalls viktig verksamhet@msb.se](mailto:samhalls viktig verksamhet@msb.se)