

Caretaker

Job Description

February 2024



The Stour Academy Trust

Introduction

***“The future should not just happen to us,
we should create it”***

Established in 2012, The Stour Academy Trust is a primary school only Trust, for children aged 4-11 years. The well-being of our pupils is our number one priority. Our foundations have been grown first before expansion. We will only expand when we have the capacity to do so.

Our Vision

The Stour Academy Trust recognises that our education system needs to quickly and more radically shift to close equity gaps and to better prepare our young people for the 21st century. We are transforming our schools from passive forms of learning focused on direct instruction and memorisation, by moving towards interactive methods that promote the critical and individual thinking needed in today’s innovation-driven economy.

Our pedagogical model combined with the intentional deployment of technology will help us deliver personalised learning in an enabling environment. Technology will accelerate our progress but will not be the driver of our vision.

We aim to nurture a community of learners that challenge thinking, where our staff are empowered to take risks and develop their practice to meet the needs of an evolving school system, which is not held back by traditional restrictions and ideologies.

By limiting routine or unnecessary tasks we allow professionals to focus on learning behaviours and interactions which will promote emotional intelligence and the development of children as life-long, curious learners.

There will be no barriers to achievement within our learning community and our teachers will build strong relationships that facilitate the learning of others. Collaboration will open doors, minds and possibilities and enable individuals to meet their personal goals.



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Post: Caretaker

Reports to: Trust Estates4 Lead / COO

Liaising with: Head teachers, Senior Leadership Team, Office Managers, staff, pupils, contractors

Purpose:

Under the direction of the Trust Estates Lead, the caretaker is to be responsible for the day to day maintenance of the school so as to provide an appropriately safe and secure environment for the education and wellbeing of pupils, staff and visitors. The caretaker is responsible for the security, improvement, maintenance and cleanliness of the academy building, grounds and machinery.

Specific Responsibilities:

- Ensure the maintenance of the school premises, site, buildings and equipment to minimise risks to the health and safety of staff, pupils and visitors.
- To provide a building maintenance / refurbishment service.
- Carry out responsibilities with due regard to Trust policies, organisation and arrangements for Health and Safety at Work.
- Contribute towards the efficient operation of the school site in accordance with the Trusts policies, individual site policies and in particular those relating to the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974.
- Unlock and lock premises where applicable, carry out initial inspection of site for vandalism or items requiring building maintenance. Ensure security of all windows, doors and gates.
- Switch on/off lights as appropriate.
- Set intruder alarm and initiate response procedure following alarm activation including acting as key holder for out-of-hours activation.
- Provide access to the academy site out of hours as requested.
- Inspect the site to identify building defects (service, repair, decoration), initiate and progress work orders and the maintenance of appropriate records.
- Inspect and carry out repairs as qualified and maintain decorations and reinstatements to fabric and other fittings where appropriate.

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- Carry out regular health and safety checks (i.e. fire alarms, sprinklers, water testing, playground equipment, hazards around the site and potential unsafe practices) reporting the findings to the Trust Estates Lead
- Complete relevant risk assessments
- Undertake termly visual checks of electrical appliances.
- Remove graffiti (excluding that requiring removal by specialists).
- Maintain records of the servicing and testing of firefighting equipment and alarms.
- Inspect, check and clean blockages in sink waste traps, toilets and clean areas affected which occur during normal school hours
- Undertake emergency action to minimise the effects resulting from burst pipes, vandalism or fire damage prior to repair or remedial work being undertaken by specialist agencies.
- Discuss and identify with the Trust Estates Lead minor building and decorating work to be done.
- Ensure toilets are cleaned when necessary
- Maintain records of any hazardous materials on the school site and ensure that Health and Safety guidelines are followed.
- Liaise with the Office staff and/or Trust Estates Lead to order resources
- Take down/re-hang curtains/blinds below 3.5 metres subject to maintenance of safe systems of work, where no specialist contractors are required.
- Maintain a litter-free environment as far as is practicable, emptying external waste bins and remove internal rubbish as necessary.
- Ensure bins are locked and meet health and safety requirements re. distance from building
- Clear snow to main routes of access/exits as far as is reasonably practicable.
- Order resources required and salt main pathways to ensure safe access/exits for pupils and staff.



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- Ensure the care and operation of the heating plant and general cleanliness of the boiler room, reporting any defects as appropriate and ensuring adequate supplies of fuel are available where required.
- Carry out regular checks and maintenance of drains and gullies to ensure they are free flowing and clean.
- Monitor the efficient use of fuel, electricity and water, carrying out meter readings as necessary.
- Handle the receipt and portorage of light goods and materials, using trolleys where appropriate and following any manual handling procedures recommended.
- Set out and put away furniture for assembly, lunch, meetings and other functions as required.
- Comply with policies and procedures relating to child protection, health, safety and security, confidentiality, and data protection, reporting all concerns to an appropriate person.
- Complete online training as part of induction and annual refresher training.
- Have due regard for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and follow the child protection procedures and the Trust's safeguarding policy
- Carry out all activities in accordance with The Stour Academy Trust's Policies
- Participate in and support the Trust performance management policy
- Undertake other tasks commensurate with the post as directed by the Trust Premise Lead and / or COO
- Promote a positive ethos of the school and The Stour Academy Trust.



The duties above are neither exclusive nor exhaustive and the post holder may be required by the Trust Estates Lead / COO to carry out appropriate duties within the context of the job, skills and grade.

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