

From: DfE information <dfe.information@notifications.service.gov.uk>

Sent: 02 March 2021 14:14

To: Janet Perry <janet.perry@tameside.gov.uk>

Subject: 2 March – Coronavirus – Daily update to all early years, children’s social care, schools and further education providers

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of Tameside Council. This email claims to contain information about Coronavirus (COVID-19).

Please inspect the email carefully to verify this is not a phishing email before clicking any links or opening attachments. Please exercise caution. Do you trust the person? Does the email look genuine? Were you expecting the attachment?

This message is just a reminder to remain vigilant. If in any doubt, please contact the IT Service Desk or Cyber Security Officer.



This is your daily email to keep you updated on the government’s response to coronavirus (COVID-19). If you have colleagues who would like to receive this email directly, please ask them to use this [subscription form](#).

Technical issues with the Department for Education coronavirus (COVID-19) helpline have been resolved

The technical issues that we experienced yesterday have now been resolved and the Department for Education coronavirus (COVID-19) helpline is now back up and running.

We would like to apologise for any inconvenience that this may have caused.

Webinar on the rapid testing programme and the move to testing at home

We are hosting a webinar on Friday 5 March from 12pm to 1:45pm to provide secondary schools and colleges with an update on the rapid testing programme and the move to testing at home. Students and pupils will still need to do 3 tests on-site (ATS), each 3 to 5 days apart, before moving to home-testing.

Click on the link to join.

[Rapid testing webinar – Friday 5 March, 12:00pm to 1:45pm](#)

If you are unable to join the webinar, it will be recorded and made available to watch shortly after.

Information from Ofsted on remote education for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)

Ofsted has published new information on [how remote education is working for children and young people with SEND](#). Their findings are taken from the [autumn and spring term interim visits](#).

[Ofsted's video](#) about remote education and what is working for children and young people with SEND is now available to watch.

You can also download their slides on [remote education for children and young people with SEND: a discussion pack for leaders and practitioners](#).

Private candidates for GCSEs and A levels

Last week, the Department for Education and Ofqual announced the [outcomes of the consultation on GCSE and A level exams in summer 2021](#). The announcement stated that private candidates should work with a centre to receive a grade. We know that some candidates will not have an existing relationship with a centre and will be looking for centres to register with, and so we encourage

all schools and colleges to consider taking on private candidates this year.

Information is available in the [Ofqual guidance for Heads of Centre](#) (Annex D). Further details on the assessment approach for private candidates and the support offered by the Department for Education and the exam boards will be made available shortly.

Once this information is available, there will be an opportunity for centres to express interest in being on a list of available centres to support those candidates.

Updated guidance on safe working in education, childcare, and children's social care

We have updated our [guidance on safe working in education, childcare, and children's social care](#) to include changes to the system of controls, to align with information already published in the [guidance for schools](#), [guidance for specialist settings](#), [guidance for early years](#), [guidance for further education](#) and [guidance for higher education](#).

This includes:

- advice on the [use and disposal of face coverings in education and childcare settings](#)
- advice on the [areas in which cleaning should be enhanced](#)
- advice on how to consider [minimising contact and maintaining social distancing wherever possible](#)
- guidance on [ventilation](#)
- guidance on [asymptomatic testing](#)
- advice on [organising transport for children](#)

The information below has not changed since our last update

Department for Education coronavirus (COVID-19) helpline

The Department for Education coronavirus (COVID-19) helpline and the PHE Advice Service (option 1) is available to answer any questions you have about coronavirus (COVID-19) relating to education settings and children's social care.

Phone: 0800 046 8687

Opening hours:

Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm

Saturday and Sunday from 10am to 6pm

Please listen carefully to all of the available options before selecting the most appropriate option for your nursery, school, college or university.

Look up your unique organisation number (UON)

If you have not received your unique organisation number (UON) for ordering new coronavirus (COVID-19) test kits you can [look it up using your unique reference number \(URN\) or your UK provider reference number \(UKPRN\)](#) or by calling the Test and Trace helpdesk on 119.

Department for Education guidance

Our guidance to support education providers, local authorities

and parents during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak can be accessed using the links below:

- [guidance for early years and childcare providers](#)
- [guidance for schools](#)
- [guidance for further and higher education providers](#)
- [guidance for local authority children's services](#)