

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

Sent: 05 February 2021 14:55

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

Subject: 5 February – 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](#).

Publishing information on remote education provision

The previous expectation for schools to publish information about their remote education provision on their website, has now become a legal duty.

[The Education \(Coronavirus, Remote Education Information\) \(England\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2021](#) come into force on 12 February 2021 and update the existing legislative requirements for schools to publish details about their in-school curriculum. There is now also a requirement for schools to publish details of their remote education provision. The legal duty does not require schools to provide any more information than they were

previously expected to under guidance. An [optional template](#) is available to support schools with this requirement.

Update to free school meals guidance

We have updated our [guidance on providing school meals during the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) outbreak](#). It includes information about supplier relief payments and changes to the period the support covers. We have also added Farmfoods to the list of supermarkets available and updated the information on how to order vouchers.

Asymptomatic testing – reordering test kits

We have added guidance on reordering test kits and PPE to the [secondary school and college document sharing platform](#). Due to limited national stock, please only place an order when you have close to 2 weeks' worth of testing supplies remaining.

Please refer to the [published guidance](#) to make sure you follow the national testing policy and use your testing supplies accordingly.

The process for reordering tests for primary schools and nurseries will be available from early next week.

Updated guidance on getting help with technology

We have published new guidance about the department's [Get help with technology programme](#).

The guidance helps local authorities, academy trusts, schools, colleges and other further education institutions to understand the different services offered by the programme. It also provides

information on who can get laptops, tablets and support to access the internet during coronavirus (COVID-19).

Guidance update for early years and childcare providers

We have updated our [guidance for early years and childcare providers](#) to include information on educational visits, arriving and leaving educational settings, face coverings and advice for pregnant staff. We have also updated our guidance on [what to do if a child or adult is displaying symptoms of coronavirus](#) to include information on charging parents and carers, childminders, and NHS advice on vaccines and fevers.

Orders for laptops and tablets

From today, we are making a further 300,000 laptops and tablets available for most schools to order. We have emailed all schools to let them know what this means for them.

All schools that have been allocated more devices will be invited to order them by email as soon as possible.

Ordering will remain open over half term, but there will be no deliveries of devices during this time. If you place an order before the half term break, your school must be able to receive devices until 6pm on Friday 12 February.

Deliveries will resume on Monday 22 February.

Children's Mental Health Week

Children's Mental Health Week, an annual week-long campaign run by children's mental health charity [Place2Be](#), began on Monday 1 February and will run until Sunday 7 February.

This year's theme is "Express Yourself" with the focus on children finding ways to share feelings, thoughts, or ideas through creativity. Mentally Healthy Schools have created a [toolkit of resources](#) for children, staff and parents to use during Children's Mental Health Week.

We have shared a variety of mental health resources on our social media platforms, including 'wellbeing for education return' and the [children and young people's psychological first aid training](#) which is run by Public Health England.

Further advice on support for students is available in the [guidance on the mental health and wellbeing aspects of coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#).

Appointment of Youth Mental Health Ambassador

In support of Children's Mental Health Week, the Prime Minister has [announced the appointment of Dr Alex George as a Youth Mental Health Ambassador](#) to advise the government and raise the profile of mental health education and wellbeing in schools.

Dr Alex is an A&E doctor and has been a passionate online campaigner for children's mental health since he tragically lost his brother to suicide last year. As Youth Mental Health Ambassador, he will use his clinical expertise and personal experience to champion government's work on children's mental health and shape policy on improving support for young people in schools, colleges and universities.

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](#)