

**From:** DfE information [<mailto:dfe.information@notifications.service.gov.uk>]

**Sent:** 06 October 2020 12:09

**To:** Janet Perry

**Subject:** 6 October – 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).

## **Coronavirus (COVID-19) home test kits webinars for schools and colleges**

The Department of Health and Social Care are hosting a series of webinars to support schools and colleges in understanding how to use coronavirus (COVID-19) home test kits in education settings. During these webinars we will provide guidance on who should receive these kits, what they will look like and how parents and carers should use them.

They will last for 60 minutes and there will be an opportunity to ask questions. We strongly encourage schools and colleges to [sign up](#) to one of the webinars:

- Thursday 8 October at 3pm
- Friday 16 October at 12.30pm

Full details on when these test kits should be provided, how to store them and the usual routes for accessing free coronavirus (COVID-19) testing can be found in our guidance on [coronavirus \(COVID-19\) home testing kits](#).

## Testing programme feedback survey

The Department of Health and Social Care has launched a survey to better understand your recent experience with the testing programme and, where appropriate, ordering additional testing kits.

Please take 5 minutes to [complete this survey](#) and help them to improve this service and your future experience.

## World Mental Health Day resources

Mentally Healthy Schools have created a [toolkit of resources](#) for World Mental Health Day on 10 October that focus on inclusivity and celebrating our differences. The resources in this toolkit are designed to help schools support pupils who may need more help with their mental health and celebrate the unique and different qualities that each child brings to a school community.

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The information below hasn't changed since our last update

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## Please keep your Get Information About Schools (GIAS) contacts up to date

Please take this opportunity to review all of your contact information in Get Information About Schools (GIAS). Keeping your details up to date will ensure that you continue to receive the most up to date information from the Department for Education and from the Department of Health and Social Care who are providing schools and colleges with coronavirus

(COVID-19) testing kits. For academy trusts, this will also ensure compliance with the Academies Financial Handbook.

To update your record, please go to the [GIAS home page](#), “Sign in” using your “DfE Sign-in” credentials and select GIAS from your available services

## **Department for Education coronavirus (COVID-19) helpline opening hours**

The Department for Education coronavirus (COVID-19) helpline remains available to answer questions about coronavirus (COVID-19) relating to education and children’s social care. Please listen carefully to the available options and select the most appropriate to your nursery, school, or college’s current situation.

Staff, parents and young people can contact this helpline by calling:

Phone: 0800 046 8687

Opening hours: Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm  
Saturday and Sunday from 10am to 4pm

## **Information education settings should have to hand when they call for advice on a positive case**

Public Health England’s (PHE) dedicated advice service, delivered by NHS Business Services Authority, is available to early years settings, schools, colleges and out of school settings. The service is for those needing support on the action they should take when they have been informed of a confirmed case of coronavirus (COVID-19) in their setting (i.e. a pupil or staff member testing positive).

It can be reached by calling the Department for Education coronavirus (COVID-19) helpline on 0800 046 8687 and selecting option 1 to report a positive test within your setting. This option will take you through to a dedicated team of NHS Business Services Authority advisors who will work through a risk assessment with you to identify close contacts, and will inform you what action is needed based on the latest public health advice. Advisors will be responsible for referring more complex cases to the PHE regional health protection team, as necessary, following a triaging of your circumstances during the call.

Phone: 0800 046 8687 – option 1 to report a positive test within your setting

Opening hours: Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm  
Saturday and Sunday from 10am to 4pm

When you call for advice, please have the following information to hand relating to the positive coronavirus (COVID-19) case in your setting as you will need to discuss this with the call adviser:

- the number of positive cases in your setting, whether the person who tested positive is displaying symptoms and if so, the date of the onset of the symptoms (if known)
- the dates that the person who tested positive was in attendance at the setting so that we can identify if the person was infectious whilst on site
- for key stage 2, 3, 4 and 5, the seating plan for all lessons, and (where relevant) the timetable, for the person who has tested positive. This will help to support identification of close contacts with that person
- for key stage 2, 3, 4 and 5, if the person who has tested positive is a member of staff, records of any instance of close contact with other members of staff or students

- if the person who has tested positive is a pupil, records of any definite face to face contact with the individual and details of their friendship group within the setting

You should continue to inform your local authority of a positive case in your setting.