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**To:** Janet Perry <[janet.perry@tameside.gov.uk](mailto:janet.perry@tameside.gov.uk)>

**Subject:** 8 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](#).

## **Pupils and students return to school and college from today**

From today, Monday 8 March:

- pupils and students in all schools and further education settings [return to face-to-face education](#)
- wraparound childcare can reopen and other children’s activities can restart only where it is needed to enable parents to work, attend education, seek medical care or attend a support group. Vulnerable children can attend childcare and other children’s activities in all circumstances
- students on practical higher education courses at English universities who have not already returned and would be

unable to complete their courses if they did not return to take part in practical teaching, access specialist facilities or complete assessments [will be able to return](#)

England is still in a national lockdown. You must stay at home, leaving only where permitted by law, and follow the rules in the [national lockdown: stay at home guidance](#).

## **How to complete the educational setting status form**

From today, as part of the [educational setting status form](#), we have asked schools and colleges to provide information on:

- the number of pupils or students not on site as part of the phased return process, for the settings undertaking lateral flow testing
- for the settings offering onsite wraparound provision, the number of pupils including vulnerable children in wraparound provision, pupils with an education, health and care (EHC) plan or social worker and the number of those who could not be offered a place

We have updated the [guidance on how to complete the educational settings status form](#) to include the updated list of questions for schools and colleges.

Please provide your data by 2pm each working day.

If you have any questions that are not answered by the guidance, please call the Department for Education coronavirus (COVID-19) helpline on 0800 046 8687.

## **Reporting missing test kit deliveries using the contact us form**

Primary schools, attached nurseries, maintained nursery schools, secondary schools and colleges can use the [contact us form](#) to report any missing or damaged test kit deliveries. Before submitting a report for a missing delivery, please check that another member of staff has not accepted the delivery and allow 48 hours for re-delivery attempts.

The cut-off point for orders is every Wednesday at 5pm. Orders are usually delivered within 7 working days. If you place your order after the cut-off point, please allow 12 working days to receive your delivery.

## **Disposing of coronavirus (COVID-19) waste**

The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs has updated its guidance on [how to dispose of waste during the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) pandemic](#) including face coverings, personal protective equipment (PPE) and waste from lateral flow device (LFD) test kits.

For schools and colleges, LFD waste is not considered to be healthcare waste.

You should segregate LFD waste from any recyclable packaging or other material. Outer packaging provided with the LFD test kits can be recycled or disposed of through your existing waste streams.

Once a LFD test is complete:

- all of the used LFD test kits (swabs, cartridges and devices) should be placed in the small waste bag provided with the kit, this should then be put in your black bag waste bins
- any disposable equipment such as face coverings, gloves, or aprons worn during the LFD testing process, either by those

doing the test or those supervising others, should be put in your black bag waste bins

Under your [waste management duty of care](#) you must ensure that all waste produced onsite, including from the LFD test kits, is handled appropriately by a licenced waste management company.

## **Ofsted coronavirus (COVID-19) rolling update**

Ofsted has updated the early years and childcare section of its [coronavirus \(COVID-19\) rolling update](#) to inform providers that notifications of confirmed cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) will not prompt a regulatory visit.

## **£79 million to boost mental health support for children and young people**

On Friday 5 March, the [Department of Health and Social Care announced](#) that millions more children and young people will have access to significantly expanded mental health services, backed by a £79 million boost.

The number of mental health support teams in schools and colleges will grow from 59 to 400 by April 2023, supporting nearly 3 million children.

As we begin step one of the [roadmap](#), with schools returning from today, the government has expanded the support available to children and young people who may be suffering from poor mental health as a result of, or exacerbated by, the pandemic.

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The information below has not changed since our last update

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## **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](#)