

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

Sent: 19 January 2021 17:15

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

Subject: 19 January – 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](#).

Guidance for primary, schools-based nursery and maintained nursery school staff testing

On 13 January we confirmed that primary schools, including school-based nurseries and maintained nursery schools, should expect to receive a delivery of home testing kits beginning this week. We have now published guidance for [testing primary, school-based nursery and maintained nursery school staff](#) to support you with this.

Further information, guidance and resources to support rapid testing will be available shortly on the [primary schools document sharing platform](#).

Extension of military support for secondary schools and colleges

Secondary schools and colleges can continue to access military support to help set up testing sites. This support has been extended until the end of January.

The military can provide virtual training and advice on establishing the testing process, with teams on standby to provide in-person support to set up the testing site if required. If secondary schools and colleges have not yet signed up for the testing programme or started testing, please do consider accessing this support before the end of January.

A smaller amount of military support will be available from 30 January, until February half-term, but only in exceptional circumstances as schools and colleges should already have their testing capability set up and testing should have started.

To request support, please contact the DfE coronavirus (COVID-19) helpdesk on 0800 046 8687.

The following are examples where the military have provided support to help set up testing sites.

The Priory Learning Trust

The military assisted the Priory Learning Trust by providing tailored advice and support to assist with setting up testing sites at three different schools. The trust was very grateful to the military for being accommodating, visiting their various sites and undertaking a roleplay to walk through the flow of the set up.

“The reassurance that we are moving in the right direction and have covered what we need was really appreciated.” (Priory Learning Trust)

Ivybridge Community College

Ivybridge Community College has around 2500 students and 300 staff. Military support was requested to help run a test pilot day to ensure the process and organisation for testing was fit for purpose for the size of the college. The day was used as an opportunity for both parties to discuss ideas and to refine its operation.

Staff Sergeant Campbell said, “The College has set the standard for the area. The staff have been trained to an excellent standard by the College team and they have all the procedures in place. They should be very proud of what they have achieved, and we wish them all the best”.

The [press release from the college](#) is available to view.

Coronavirus (COVID-19) school snapshot research panel

If you are a school leader or classroom teacher, we may have invited you to join our new coronavirus (COVID-19) school snapshot research panel. The panel will help us understand how we can enhance support for schools and pupils during the pandemic, in a rapidly changing situation.

Postal invitation letters addressed to named staff members may start arriving in schools from today, these letters are jointly-branded from IFF Research and DfE. If invited, we strongly encourage leaders and teachers to take part, the invitation letter provides further information.

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](#)