

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

**Sent:** 25 March 2021 13:45

**To:** Sharon Scholes <[sharon.scholes@tameside.gov.uk](mailto:sharon.scholes@tameside.gov.uk)>

**Subject:** 25 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.

 **GOV.UK**

 Department for Education

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](#).

## Primary school pupils and rapid asymptomatic testing

On advice from Public Health England (PHE), pupils in primary schools and children in nursery settings are not included in the rapid asymptomatic testing programme.

PHE has advised that there are currently limited public health benefits to testing primary-aged pupils with lateral flow devices (LFD). In addition, primary-aged pupils, particularly younger children, may find the LFD testing process unpleasant and are unable to self-swab.

We are advising that primary-aged pupils should only be tested if they are symptomatic, in which case their families should follow

the [guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#) and [book a PCR test](#) for the child.

You may also offer a PCR test kit to the parent or guardian of any primary school child who becomes symptomatic onsite, if they believe that the child faces significant barriers to testing through the usual routes. All schools were sent an initial supply of 10 PCR test kits before the start of the autumn term in 2020. You can replenish these kits when they run out by making an order through the [online portal](#). Rapid LFD tests should not be offered to individuals who develop coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms, regardless of their age.

## **Updated guidance on remote education good practice**

We have updated our [guidance on remote education good practice](#) to include sections on physical education, remote teaching for very young pupils and supporting pupils with special educational needs and disabilities. We have also added a new section on safeguarding and online safety.

## **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

Easter opening hours:

Friday 1 April to Monday 4 April from 10am to 4pm

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

---

The information below has not changed since our last update

---

## **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.

Private, voluntary and independent nurseries do not need a UON.

## **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 special schools and other specialist settings](#)
- [guidance for further and higher education providers](#)
- [guidance for local authority children's services](#)

