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Sent: 31 December 2020 18:07

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

Subject: 31 December – 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)

Guidance on the coronavirus (COVID-19) testing programme for secondary schools and colleges

As we approach the start of the spring term, we will be updating the [schools and colleges document sharing platform](#) to include additional resources to support you with the roll out of rapid testing. Resources that will be added before the 4 January are:

- NHS digital guide – this guide provides details on how to register testing assistants, staff and pupils on the NHS Test and Trace system
- ‘how to’ guide – this guide will be updated to include information on the test registration process

- 'how to' video – this video accompanies the 'how to' guide and provides a simple walk through of the end-to-end process to help you understand how testing will look and feel
- site signage – print friendly signage that you may wish to display around your test site
- consent form template – for schools to issue to parents and carers to provide their consent for their child (under 16) to participate in testing and how to register on the NHS digital solution
- a privacy notice for schools – this document is for schools and explains what information the Department for Education needs from schools and how we will use any information provided
- a privacy notice for parents – for schools to issue to parents and carers that explains how information will be stored and used
- legal agreement and standard operating procedure – a cover note will be provided to summarise these documents

We have also published supplementary guidance for [special schools, specialist colleges and alternative provision with secondary age pupils on the national asymptomatic mass testing programme](#). This guidance is intended to give leaders in these settings a framework within which they can devise and deliver an approach that is effective in their particular context.

Delivery of lateral flow test kits from 8am Monday 4 January

All schools with secondary-age pupils, including independent schools, special schools, alternative provision, sixth forms and further education colleges, will receive an initial delivery of lateral flow device test kits to support asymptomatic testing from the start of the spring term.

We will be uploading the delivery plans for all schools and colleges onto the [schools and colleges document sharing platform](#). All schools and colleges will receive a delivery on the 4 January. Please ensure that someone is onsite to receive delivery of your testing kits from 8am on Monday 4 January from Royal Mail or Parcel Force.

The plan will also contain details of what will be in the delivery, and when you can expect to receive subsequent deliveries from Brakes and Bidfood on 4, 5 and 6 January. It is essential that there is someone who can accept the deliveries when they arrive. Please do not reject any deliveries.

If you have surplus supplies of test kits, we will tell you how this delivery can be returned at a later date.

Educational settings status form to resume from 4 January

From 4 January, or the start of term if after this date, primary and secondary schools will be asked to resume completing the daily [educational setting status form](#).

Where schools are only open for vulnerable children and the children of critical workers, we understand that you may not have all the information you need to complete the form, please complete the form to the best of your knowledge.

Colleges do not need to resume completing the form, we will provide further instruction next week on when colleges should resume completing this form.

Secretary of State for Education, Gavin Williamson, announcement on January return to education

Yesterday, the Secretary of State for Education, Gavin Williamson, [announced plans to protect education and fight the virus](#).

With case rates rising across the country, the government will now begin applying the contingency framework for education and childcare settings and push back the staggered return for secondary schools and colleges by one week.

Secondary schools and colleges will extend the staggered return of their students to give more time for the rollout of testing. This will help find asymptomatic cases and break chains of transmission, making it as safe as possible to return to face-to-face education.

- during the first week of term, beginning on or just after 4 January, secondary schools and colleges will focus on the rollout of testing to help find asymptomatic cases. They will provide face-to-face education for vulnerable children and the [children of critical workers](#), and prioritise resources for remote education for exam year groups in line with what they would receive in class and to all other years as resources permit
- during the second week of term, beginning on 11 January, secondary schools and colleges will start their programme of testing, prioritising staff, those students in schools and colleges and the exam cohorts. Schools and colleges will be able to bring students back to face-to-face tuition as testing is rolled out. Remote education will be provided to all pupils this week prior to return to school or college
- all students will return to secondary schools and colleges for face-to-face education by 18 January
- vocational exams scheduled for the first week of January will go ahead as planned

Alternative provision and special schools will all return to face-to-face education from the start of term as planned, with individual

special schools being offered greater flexibility on face-to-face attendance of pupils and students in the first week of term. This will enable them to appropriately mobilise their mass testing programme.

Early years and primary year groups will return as normal from the start of term, with the exception of areas where primary schools will shift to remote education in line with the contingency framework.

The government has announced it will be applying the [contingency framework for education and childcare settings](#) to primary schools in areas of the country with very high rates of incidence or transmission of the virus, with the first areas to move into the framework announced yesterday.

We have published guidance for education and childcare settings on the [implementation on the contingency framework](#). For schools in areas under the contingency framework, only vulnerable children, the children of critical workers and students taking external exams this year should attend school. High-quality remote education should be provided for all other pupils.

Local authority areas where the contingency framework applies are:

- Ashford
- Barking and Dagenham
- Barnet
- Basildon
- Bexley
- Braintree
- Brent
- Brentwood
- Bromley

- Broxbourne
- Castle Point
- Chelmsford
- Croydon
- Dartford
- Ealing
- Enfield
- Epping Forest
- Gravesham
- Hammersmith and Fulham
- Harlow
- Hastings
- Havering
- Hertsmere
- Hillingdon
- Hounslow
- Kensington and Chelsea
- Maidstone
- Maldon
- Medway
- Merton
- Milton Keynes
- Newham
- Redbridge
- Richmond-Upon-Thames
- Rochford
- Rother
- Sevenoaks
- Southend on Sea
- Southwark

- Sutton
- Swale
- Three Rivers
- Thurrock
- Tonbridge and Malling
- Tower Hamlets
- Tunbridge Wells
- Waltham Forest
- Wandsworth
- Watford
- Westminster

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) will be available over the holidays 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:

1 January – 9am to 4pm (option 7 for questions on rapid testing only)

2 to 3 January – 10am to 6pm

From 4 January the helpline opening hours are:

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](#)
- [Guidance for holiday or after-school clubs and other out-of-school settings](#)