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

Subject: 24 February – 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](#).

New measures to support education recovery

Following the Prime Minister’s announcement on Monday on the roadmap for leaving lockdown, the government has today announced further elements of the recovery support package so children and young people can catch up on missed learning and development due to the pandemic.

This will be supported with a new £700 million package for England which includes:

- a new one-off £302 million recovery premium for state primary and secondary schools. This builds on the pupil premium to

further support pupils who need it most. The average primary school will receive around £6,000 extra, and the average secondary school around £22,000 extra

- £200 million (from the £300 million announced by the Prime Minister in January to expand our successful tutoring programmes) will be available to fund an £83 million expansion of the national tutoring programme for primary and secondary schools, a £102 million extension of the 16-19 Tuition Fund for a further year; and £18 million funding to support language development in early years
- £200 million (including the final £100 million from the Prime Minister's announcement) will be available to secondary schools to deliver face-to-face summer schools. Schools will be able to target provision based on pupils' needs but the government is suggesting they may want to initially target incoming year 7 pupils. This is alongside wider support funded through our holiday activities and food programme across the country
- a range of high-quality online resources will be available for all teachers and pupils, starting from the summer term and throughout the summer holidays. These will be provided by Oak National Academy, to help give pupils the confidence they are ready for the next academic year

Payment of coronavirus (COVID-19) recovery premium

We have also updated our guidance for the [coronavirus \(COVID-19\) recovery premium](#) to provide detail on the conditions of the grant and provide further information about payment amounts and dates.

The first payment of recovery premium funding was paid to providers in late 2020, and the second payment will be made between February and March 2021 as follows:

- local authorities on 26 February 2021
- academies on 8 March 2021
- non-maintained special schools in March 2021

As set out in [earlier guidance](#), we will make one further payment in 2021 based on final allocations.

Further updates following the Prime Minister's announcement

On Monday, the Prime Minister announced the government's plan for the return of all pupils to schools and colleges, as part of the [roadmap for leaving lockdown](#). You can read a transcript of the [Prime Minister's speech](#) which has now been published.

We published updated guidance yesterday to reflect the changes announced by the Prime Minister:

- [providing apprenticeships during the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) outbreak](#)
- [assessment processes for selective schools admissions](#)
- [protective measures for holiday or after-school clubs and other out-of-school settings for children during the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) outbreak](#)

We have also published an [open letter from the Secretary of State for Education to parents](#) about the decision to lift restrictions on education from Monday 8 March. This letter also provides information on the asymptomatic testing programme and safety measures. Alongside this we have updated guidance on [what parents and carers need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges](#) and [parents and carers of children attending out-of-school settings during the coronavirus](#)

[\(COVID-19\) outbreak](#). You may wish to share this letter and guidance with your parent networks.

Asymptomatic testing of secondary age pupils prior to 8 March

A number of schools and colleges have asked whether they can start testing pupils and students the week before Monday 8 March to help manage the flow of pupils and students through on-site assisted test sites (ATS).

Schools and colleges may start testing students and pupils before Monday 8 March if they would like to do so. This is voluntary and at the discretion of each school or college. Asymptomatic testing is an important tool for helping to break the chains of transmission of the virus and so students and pupils may go to school or college specifically for a test before Monday 8 March if their school or college offers to test them.

If a school or college chooses to start testing before Monday 8 March, they should still follow the [schools operational guidance](#) or [further education guidance](#).

Students must maintain social distance and must go home after their test result if the test is before Monday 8 March.

Students and pupils will still need to do 3 tests on-site (ATS), each 3 to 5 days apart, before moving to home-testing. Schools and colleges should not start home testing students and pupils before the week beginning Monday 15 March.

Schools and colleges will need to consider the transport implications of testing before Monday 8 March.

You will start receiving deliveries of test at home kits for staff from Wednesday 24 February. There is no need to place an order for them, deliveries will be made between Wednesday 24 February and Tuesday 2 March. From Monday 8 March, you will

automatically receive a re-stock of test at home kits so your pupils or students can collect them after their third test on-site at the school or college test site. Deliveries will be between Monday 8 March and Monday 15 March – again there is no need to place an order. The re-ordering process for test at home kits will be in place from Monday 15 March onwards.

You will receive a replenishment of ATS testing kits during the week beginning Monday 1 March to ensure you are ready to test pupils and students on-site at least 3 times when they return. Again, there is no need to place an order for ATS kits. For this reason, the secondary schools and colleges ATS test kit reordering process is currently closed. If you have an urgent need for further testing kits, you may place an order on Monday 1 March. Please follow this [link](#) to see the specific date on which your school or college will receive its test kits.

The frequently asked questions for secondary schools and colleges have been updated to reflect the above.

Asymptomatic testing in primary schools, school-based nurseries, maintained nursery schools – frequently asked questions

Following the Prime Minister's announcement on Monday 22 February, [the FAQs](#) have been updated to:

- explain why we are not testing primary age pupils on return
- reflect that private, voluntary and independent nurseries (PVI) will be included in the programme from mid March – as mentioned in this [blog](#)

Student finance updates for schools and further education providers

Prospective higher education students living in England will be able to apply for undergraduate student finance for academic year 2021 to 2022 from early March.

Schools and further education providers can [sign up to the new mailing list](#) from Student Finance England. Signing up will enable them to share student finance updates and key dates with you.

Student Finance England will email you to let you know when the application service opens and send you reminders about the deadline date for students to submit their applications. They will also send you content, including videos, to share with any prospective students.

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](#)