

Public Health Updates Relevant to Education

Period Covered: 4.9.2020 – 10.9.2020

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A. New Guidance:

[Bolton: local restrictions](#)

- This guidance explains what you can and cannot do if you live, work or travel in Bolton.
- The main points in relation to education are:
 - Childcare - You can continue to use early years and childcare settings, including [childminders and holiday childcare providers](#).
 - Schools (face coverings) -In education settings where Year 7 and above are educated, [face coverings](#) should be worn by adults (staff and visitors) and pupils when moving around, such as in corridors and communal areas where social distancing is difficult to maintain. It is not usually necessary to wear face coverings in the classroom, where protective measures already mean the risks are lower, and they may inhibit teaching and learning.

(Published 9/9/2020)

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): Meeting with others safely \(social distancing\)](#)

- This guidance provides information on meeting with others safely.
- This guidance applies to England only and [local restrictions guidance](#) and should also be consulted.

It is critical that everybody observes the following key behaviours:

- HANDS - Wash your hands regularly and for 20 seconds.
- FACE - Wear a face covering in indoor settings where social distancing may be difficult, and where you will come into contact with people you do not normally meet.
- SPACE - Stay 2 metres apart from people you do not live with where possible, or 1 metre with extra precautions in place (such as wearing face coverings or increasing ventilation indoors) if this is not possible.

(Published 10/09/20)

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): testing guidance for employers](#)

This guidance covers:

- the legislation, regulations and guidance for employers and third-party healthcare providers.
- virus and antibody testing
- how to interpret test results and what the next steps should be after a positive or negative test.

(Published 10/09/20)

Educational psychologists: support for coronavirus (COVID-19) recovery

- The Department for Education wants to build temporary educational psychologist (EP) capacity to support children and young people in England when schools, colleges and other educational settings return in September 2020.
- This guidance is for former educational psychologists who may be interested in temporarily returning to the profession and practising educational psychologists who may have additional capacity to offer support for a limited period.

(Published 09/09/20)

Interim phase: area SEND

- This guidance sets out the process and range of activities that inspectors will carry out for these interim visits, from inviting a local area to take part in an interim visit to sharing feedback. The visits will give Ofsted, CQC and the government insights into how well the SEND system as a whole is working. They will also enable them to understand when local areas will be ready for routine inspections to restart.
- The purpose of the visits is to:
 - support individual local areas to understand the impact of the pandemic on children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and their families
 - find out what has worked well for them during this time, what the challenges have been and any lessons learned
 - work with the local area to identify opportunities for improvement that address the remaining challenges faced by children and young people with SEND
 - highlight positive case studies and share insights nationally to promote whole-system learning
- This guidance also covers:
 - The focus of interim visits
 - The legal context
 - How we will select local areas for interim visits
 - Length and timing of interim visits
 - Before the interim visit
 - During the visit
 - After the visit

(Published 09/09/20)

B.Updated Guidance:

Providing school meals during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak

- This guidance is for schools and local authorities and provides information on school meals arrangements during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.
- This guidance has updated the guidance on the temporary extension of free school meals eligibility to NRPF groups. This update removes references to the Covid Summer Food Fund and COVID-19 specific terminology.

(Updated 10/9/2020)

Guidance for full opening: schools

- This guidance is intended to support schools, both mainstream and alternative provision, to prepare for this. It applies to primary, secondary (including sixth forms), infant, junior, middle, upper, school-based nurseries and boarding schools. It is expected that independent schools to follow the control measures set out in this document in the same way as state-funded schools. The guidance also covers expectations for children with

special educational needs and disability (SEND), including those with education, health and care plans, in mainstream schools.

- The following information has been updated:
 - managing confirmed cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) amongst the school community
 - the framework for supporting transport to and from schools
 - pupils who are shielding or self-isolating
 - use of face coverings in schools
 - actions for all schools and local authorities with regards to recording attendance and absence
 - employer health and safety and equalities duties
 - support available for schools with regard to supply teachers
 - performance management and appraisal for teachers
 - music, dance and drama in school
 - wraparound provision and extra-curricular activity
 - physical activity in schools
 - new resources available for pupil wellbeing and support
 - behaviour expectations
 - primary assessment
 - additional resources available for delivering remote education
 - changes to SEND legislation

(Updated 10/9/2020)

[Actions for early years and childcare providers during the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) outbreak](#)

- This guidance explains what childcare services early years settings, childminders and local authorities need to provide during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.
- It has been updated by adding an updated version of 'What to do if a child is displaying symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19)'.

(Updated 10/9/2020)

[Actions for schools during the coronavirus outbreak](#)

- This guidance explains what all schools will need to do during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak from the start of the autumn term.
- It has been updated by adding an updated version of 'What to do if a child is displaying symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19)'.

(Updated 10/9/2020)

[Actions for FE colleges and providers during the coronavirus outbreak](#)

- This guidance sets out what further education (FE) providers need to know for the autumn term so that students of all ages can benefit from their education and training in full.
- It has been updated by adding an updated version of 'What to do if a child is displaying symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19)'.

(Updated 10/9/2020)

[16 to 19 education: funding allocations](#)

- This guidance provides information about how 16 to 19 funding is allocated to colleges, providers, schools and academies.
- The progress along the allocations timeline has been updated.

(Updated 10/9/2020)

[16 to 19 funding: 16 to 19 tuition fund](#)

- This guidance sets out the expectations for and conditions under which the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) will support students via the 16 to 19 tuition fund in 2020 to 2021 academic year allocations. This should be read alongside the [16-19 education: funding guidance](#) of which this forms a part. This fund is additional funding for one-year for

schools, colleges and other 16 to 19 providers to mitigate the disruption to learning arising from coronavirus (COVID-19).

- This guidance has been updated with amendments to the eligibility criteria in the summary section to state that the students supported by the 16 to 19 tuition fund all need to be those who had not achieved grade 5 or above in English and/or maths.

(Updated 9/9/2020)

COVID-19: infection prevention and control (IPC)

- This guidance contains posters for good handwashing and hand rubbing using hand sanitiser.
- This guidance has been updated by removing 'Considerations for acute personal protective equipment (PPE) shortages'.

(Updated 9/9/2020)

Guidance for full opening: special schools and other specialist settings

- This guidance sets out what all special schools and other specialist settings will need to do during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak from the start of the autumn term to support the return of children and young people with special education needs and disability (SEND).
- The guidance has been updated to reflect the actions special schools and other specialist settings need to support full opening from the start of the autumn term. The main changes are listed at the start of the document.

The following information has been updated:

- changes to SEND legislation
- use of face coverings in settings
- the framework for supporting transport to and from settings
- pupils who are shielding or self-isolating
- actions for all schools and local authorities with regards to recording attendance and absence
- employer health and safety and equalities duties
- support available for schools with regard to supply teachers
- performance management and appraisal for teachers
- health and safety
- music, dance and drama in school
- wraparound provision and extra-curricular activity
- physical activity in schools
- new resources available for pupil wellbeing and support
- behaviour expectations
- primary assessment
- additional resources available for delivering remote education
- health and safety risk assessments for those with an EHC plan

(Updated 08/09/20)

Guidance for schools: coronavirus (COVID-19)

- This is a collection of guidance regarding what school leaders, teachers and school staff need to do during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.
- It has been updated with information regarding 'Responsibility for autumn exams'. This includes information about the DfE exams support service about paying for exam fees, booking alternative sites and booking exam invigilation.

(Updated 7/9/2020)

Responsibility for autumn exams

- This guidance is for school and college leaders, heads of exam centres, teachers, students who were expecting to take exams this summer but who will not be able to receive a

calculated grade and students concerned that their calculated grade might not reflect their performance had their exams gone ahead. It provides information for schools and colleges on who should enter students for autumn exams and also explains the support DfE is giving for sites, invigilators and exam fees.

- Updated responsibilities guidance with information about entering students for maths and English language GCSE and links to wider guidance for conducting exams. Added DfE exam support service guidance about paying for exam fees, booking alternative sites and booking exam invigilation.

(Updated 7/9/2020)

[Get laptops and tablets for children who cannot attend school due to coronavirus](#)

- This guidance explains how schools can access digital devices for children requiring access to remote education due to shielding or local coronavirus restrictions. Guidance update with clarification of eligibility criteria.
- The guidance has been updated to clarify the eligibility criteria.

(Updated 04/09/2020)

[Ofsted: coronavirus \(COVID-19\) rolling update](#)

- This Ofsted guidance provides information relating to coronavirus (COVID-19) for schools, early years, children's social care and further education and skills providers.
- This guidance has been updated by adding links to guidance on what activity Ofsted will carry out for schools, further education and skills providers, and early years providers from September 2020.

(Updated 2/9/2020)

C. National Data Releases / Updates:

[The R number and growth rate in the UK](#)

- The latest reproduction number (R) and growth rate of coronavirus (COVID-19) in the UK.

(Released 4/9/2020)

[COVID-19 surveillance in school KIDs \(sKIDs\): pre and primary schools](#)

- A report on the preliminary results of the COVID-19 testing and antibody prevalence surveillance in schools programme, colloquially known as sKIDs.
- The report concludes that SARS-CoV-2 infection and transmission rates were low in preschool and primary schools under surveillance during the summer.

(Published 04/09/20)

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): countries and territories exempt from advice against 'all but essential' international travel](#)

- This guidance lists the countries and territories that have been assessed as no longer presenting an unacceptably high risk to British people travelling abroad. Foreign & Commonwealth Office (FCO) travel advice is based on risks to British nationals, including in-country public health assessments. The lists of countries removed from the list are in the updates at the bottom.
- This may be useful for schools in relation to children returning to school from holidays.

(Updated 10/9/2020)

D. News / Press Releases / Other:

[New action to prevent the spread of coronavirus in Bolton](#)

Health and Social Care Secretary Matt Hancock spoke about new measures introduced in Bolton to reduce the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19).

(Published 8/9/2020)

[Reducing bureaucratic burden: higher education](#)

This policy paper follows announcements made on 4 May 2020 and June 2020 regarding the government's plans to achieve reductions in bureaucracy for the research, innovation and university sectors.

(Published 10/9/2020)

[Ofsted support for area SEND arrangements this autumn term](#)

From October, Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC) will be visiting local areas to find out about their arrangements for children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND).

(Published 9/9/2020)

E. Local Public Health Intelligence:

Bolton's Public Health team share data on COVID in Bolton, via the dedicated webpage at <https://www.boltonjsna.org.uk/coronavirus>. This webpage provides access to the range of local analyses of COVID-19, along with access to the daily data for Bolton, postcode look ups to view cases and deaths in smaller areas, and a weekly note summarising COVID in Bolton, along with links to a selection of the national guidance. Please use Google Chrome or Firefox as your internet browser for the best experience.

This webpage is part of the newly developed website for Bolton's Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA), www.boltonjsna.org.uk which provides a local picture of health and wellbeing needs and the underlying determinants of health in the borough. At the present time, this website is a prototype and its release has been accelerated to enable wider access to a range of data, including the local COVID analyses. At this stage it contains a core set of data on the population, their health and the underlying factors that influence health and wellbeing in the borough, and we will be adding new analyses and resources as these are completed to grow a rich repository of data and intelligence for the borough.

We will endeavour to summarise key Covid related information for education settings in addition to this website to help you keep up to date. Current details can be found in this [weekly update](#) on the Extranet.