

Covid-19 Early Years Webinar

This session will start shortly

Please email questions to
startwellbookings@bolton.gov.uk



Covid-19 Early Years Webinar

21st September 2020

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Understanding the local picture

- Daily and weekly monitoring of a range of indicators of disease transmission, including testing activity, positive cases, hospital activity, mapping and investigation of clusters/outbreaks, deaths
- **No one value or single piece of information gives a complete picture**

Overall picture:

- From 25th August we have seen a steep increase in positive cases and further restrictions introduced in to Bolton from 11th September
- The latest data for Bolton is published at www.boltonjsna.org.uk/coronavirus

Understanding the local picture

- From 25th August there has been a steep rise in the number of positive cases
- Despite small reductions within the last 7 days the number of new cases remain high
- The 7 day rate per 100,000 is 196/100,000 for the 7 days ending the 15th September – Bolton continues to see the highest rates across England
- Testing rate 240.5/100,000 - Individuals tested per 100,000 (7-day rolling average)
- The majority of cases in the last two weeks have been aged 16-24 (22%), there has been a rise in the number of cases in 0-15 year olds. Just over half of cases are aged 16-44 (52%)
- New COVID-19 cases are spread across the borough and are not limited to a single neighbourhood, community, or workplace
- A disproportionate number of cases are from the most disadvantaged parts of the borough
- Ethnicity is still predominantly White British though this seems to be reducing from the start of our recent flare up. (White British 55%; Asian Pakistani 12%; Asian Indian 9%)

Understanding the local picture

- Testing sites available at Moor Lane, New Bury and site planned for Mere Hall Street. Two further sites planned.
- VCSE sector involvement in communications and engagement-Bolton Youth Voice producing local film
- Bolton Fund COVID 19 engagement fund facilitated by CVS now live
- Further targeted messaging using local press, radio and social media channels
- Mobilisation of volunteer response to provide capacity for additional door knocking to promote messages and distribute additional face coverings and hand sanitiser

Bolton local restrictions

New restrictions introduced to Bolton from Friday 11th September

Hospitality venues (restaurants, bars, cafes) must only provide take away food and drinks to customers.

Night-time economy businesses and venues must close from 10pm to 5am each day:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/bolton-local-restrictions>

Bolton local restrictions

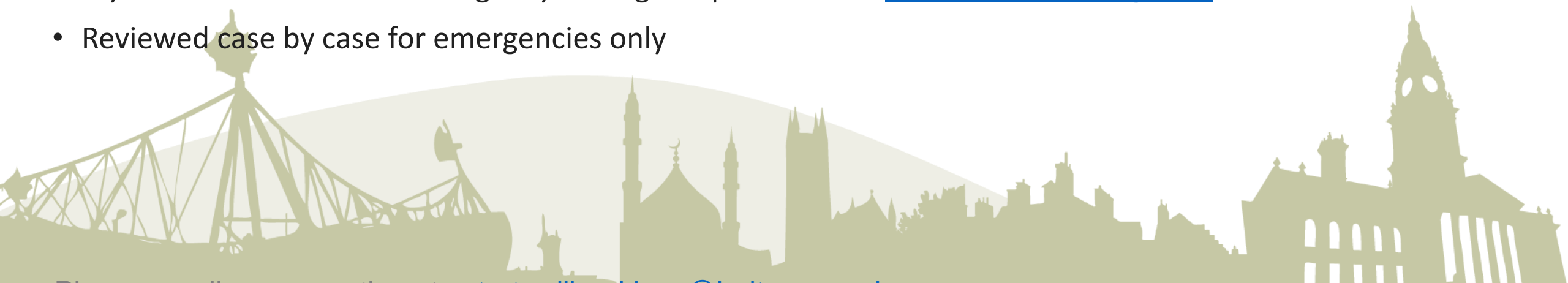
If you live in Bolton, you must not:

- host people you do not live with in your home or garden, unless they're in your support bubble
- meet people you do not live with in their home or garden, whether inside or outside of Bolton, unless they're in your support bubble
- Only meet in groups of 6 in outdoor public spaces, such as parks with people from different households
- You should only use public transport for essential reasons
- See Bolton Council website for details of local restrictions and FAQs of what you can and cannot do

<https://www.bolton.gov.uk/coronavirus-support-1/local-restrictions-can-not/1>

Update on testing

- Staff/children should only get a test if they are **symptomatic**
- Testing should be accessed via the national portal in the first instance NHS test
- If there are issues accessing via the portal, aware setting do not have emergency test kits for symptomatic staff/pupils
- If early years settings/schools are experiencing challenges in accessing testing action can be taken
- Bolton Council has a limited supply of emergency kits and is developing a system to despatch to settings
- If you need to access an emergency testing kits please email Startwell@Bolton.gov.uk
- Reviewed case by case for emergencies only



National DfE Helpline

- A DfE helpline has been established to provide support and advice to educational setting where there is **one confirmed case** of Covid-19.
- To contact the helpline education settings can call **0800 046 8687** and select the option for ‘advice following confirmation of a positive case’. The line will be open Monday to Friday from 8.00am to 6.00pm, and from 10.00am to 4.00pm on Saturdays and Sundays.
- For Bolton –in line with GM- the preferred option is that education settings continue to use the protocols set out in the resource pack and action card and to only use the DFE helpline where this is not possible.
- However, it is acknowledged that individual education settings may themselves choose to use this helpline as an alternative to this guidance

A. Understanding / reporting the context and links to the LA		
What happens?	Detail	
a. Tracing from positive test result links Test & Trace to your setting	A contact tracer will ring your setting	
a. From a parent or staff member and you have not been contacted by Test & Trace directly	<p>Email the GM Contact Tracing Hub as soon as possible and copy the local authority into the email</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • gmhscp.contacttracing@nhs.net and • Covid19contacttracing@bolton.gov.uk and • Startwell@bolton.gov.uk <p>A contact tracer will contact you. Whilst waiting for a response you can prepare the answers to the questions in stage 2.</p> <p>A Department of Education helpline provides support and advice to educational settings where there is <u>one confirmed</u> case of Covid-19.</p> <p>To contact the helpline education settings can call 0800 046 8687 and select the option for ‘advice following confirmation of a positive case’. The line will be open Monday to Friday from 8.00am to 6.00pm, and from 10.00am to 4.00pm on Saturdays and Sundays.</p> <p>If you need urgent advice you can ring Public Health England NW Office on 0344 2250562.</p> <p>Please note:</p> <p>(1) that if they are contacted about individual cases in education settings the caller will be redirected to the DfE helpline.</p> <p>(2) this is not a bypass of the reporting and tracing process – test and trace will only be triggered by reporting to the GM Hub (above).</p>	

Direct and close contacts- recap

- In the event of a positive test in the educational setting, you will be asked by the contact tracer to provide key information about the case related to your setting, or will advise you about what they know.
- You will need to begin the process of identifying **direct and close contacts** of the case within your setting during the 48 hours prior to the child or staff member falling ill or whilst the child or staff member was ill. This is likely to be the classmates and teacher/leader of that class.
- Management of the designated group and adhering to preventative measures (social distancing, regular hand washing, face coverings) reduces the number of direct and close contacts
- Face coverings are one part of prevention-it is important to continue with other measures

Direct and close update

Any items of PPE and other mitigation measures such as face coverings or visors, worn in an Education setting, whilst helpful in reducing the spread of infection, **will not** prevent someone from being identified as a contact and being asked to self-isolate for 14 days if they meet the contact definition criteria:

Direct contact:

Face to face contact with a confirmed case for any length of time, within 1m, including:

- being coughed on,
- a face to face conversation,
- unprotected physical contact (skin to skin) or
- travel in a small vehicle with a case. This also includes any exposure within 1 metre for 1 minute or longer

Proximity contact:

- Extended close contact (between 1 and 2 metres) for more than 15 minutes, with a confirmed case.

What is a contact

The main categories that would lead to someone being identified as a 'contact' in an education setting are as follows:

1. Direct contact: Face to face contact with a confirmed case for any length of time, within 1m, including:

- being coughed on,
- a face to face conversation,
- unprotected physical contact (skin to skin) or
- travel in a small vehicle with a case.
- This also includes any exposure within 1 metre for 1 minute or longer

2. Proximity/close contact:

- Extended close contact (between 1 and 2 metres) for more than 15 minutes, with a confirmed case.

Frequently Asked Questions

Do the family need to isolate if a child is symptomatic?

Yes for 14 days. The 14-day period starts from the day the first person in the household became ill. People in the household who remain well after 14 days are unlikely to be infectious.

If a child has been asked to isolate do other members of the household need to isolate?

No

When can children/staff return to setting if they test negative?

If someone begins to self-isolate because they have symptoms similar to coronavirus (COVID-19) and they get a test which delivers a negative result, they feel well and no longer have symptoms similar to coronavirus (COVID-19), they can stop self-isolating. They could still have another virus, such as a cold or flu – in which case it is still best to avoid contact with other people until they are better. Other members of their household can stop self-isolating. (from <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures>)

If children have had Covid – do they need to isolate again if a bubble needs to close?

Yes –the person will probably have developed some immunity to the disease. But it cannot be guaranteed that will happen in all cases, nor exactly for how long that will last.

HR Considerations



Pregnant Staff 28 weeks and over

- DfE guidance states pregnant workers are classed as Clinically Vulnerable and should maintain a 2 meter distance from others in the workplace.
- Previous advice from the Royal College of Obstetrics and Gynaecology to support to work from home has now been revised.
- Pregnant at 28 weeks + can now attend for work supported by an individual risk assessment

£500 Test and Trace Support payment

- The government has announced a £500 Test and Trace Support payment for people in England claiming **qualifying benefits or working tax credit** who are required to self-isolate to avoid coronavirus transmission.
- Approximately 4 million people will be eligible
- Local Authorities will set up these self-isolation support schemes, we expected to be **in place by 12 October**. Those who start to self-isolate from 28 September will receive backdated payments once the scheme is set up in their Local Authority.

Supply staff

- DfE guidance states that supply staff can move between settings/schools Wherever possible, ensure staffing arrangements are consistent on a weekly basis, rather than a daily basis, in order to limit contacts
- Supply staff will be expected to comply with your setting risk assessment

Updates and Escalations



Business Continuity

- Think about who you and your staff are in close contact with during the day
- If one of you tests +ve...
 - Who will need to isolate?
 - How will the setting operate?
- Consider what measures could be implemented to minimise isolation for staff

New exemption to allow for “consistent childcare”

- The Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, Matt Hancock, has announced a new exemption to local restrictions to allow families to access “consistent childcare”.
- Residents in Bolton must not meet indoors, or a private garden, with people they do not live with.
- However, the new rule means people looking after children under the age of 14, or vulnerable adults, will be exempt from the ban when it is necessary for caring purposes.
- This will cover formal and informal arrangements for childcare - but not playdates or parties. Children under 14 will be able to be cared for by individuals outside of their immediate household as part of a care bubble
- Arrangements must be part of a consistent childcare relationship
- Full details of the new guidelines; https://www.gov.uk/government/news/childcare-to-be-exempt-from-interhousehold-mixing-restrictions-in-local-areas-of-intervention?utm_source=31d3ddb1-d609-4eea-b2d2-cb2052726165&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=immediate

Translation of guidance for parents and carers on early years providers

Government have translated our guidance for parents and carers with children in nursery, school, or college in the autumn term.

The guidance is now available in the following languages:

Arabic

Chinese – simplified

Polish

Romany

Urdu

Bengali

French

Portuguese

Somali

Chinese – traditional

Gujarati

Punjabi

Turkish



Further updates...

- **Regional helpline** – feedback provided to the DfE
- **Data Submission** – information policy
- **Testing** – email Startwell@bolton.gov.uk for emergency testing kits.



Questions

