

Dear Colleagues,

To keep you all up-to-date with the latest information on Coronavirus (COVID-19), and help protect yourself and others, we will be issuing regular updates.

The dedicated COVID-19 information area on the HES portal contains all communications and updates from the Local Authority and central government relating to COVID-19. All early years providers and schools can access this area by using the following link: <http://hes.org.uk/covid19>.

The items in this update are intended for all education providers - where the guidance is only relevant to a particular phase of education or type of provider, this is indicated.

Management of Confirmed Cases

Please accept our apologies, but the graphic attached to yesterday's Update which explained the situation regarding cases, asymptomatic and contacts, contained some incorrect information, so can you please discard it.

Our local Public Health team apologise for any confusion caused, and a corrected version of the graphic is being developed and will be circulated as soon as possible.

Resident Communications

Attached to this Update is a leaflet being sent to every Havering household this week. It sets out the reasons why the new national restrictions have been introduced, and what this means for residents.

You will see there are sections covering childcare, as well as going to school, college or university. There is also further information regarding the changes to Council services during this period, and what support is available to residents if they are suffering from financial hardship because of COVID-19.

Also attached is the latest Council social media imaging relating to the new national restrictions.

Please feel free to share the attached leaflet and image with your parents/carers to support your own communications.

Free School Meals for Pupils not Attending School

If pupils are unable to attend school because they are required to self-isolate, or due to a partial/full closure, schools should work with their suppliers to prepare meals or food parcels for pupils who are eligible for benefits-related free school meals and who are not in attendance.

For schools who use Havering Catering Services, they should liaise with the Kitchen Supervisor as soon as possible so that a weekly (or part thereof) food package can be prepared for the parent to collect. The service will require accurate free school meal numbers so that suitable arrangements can be put into place.

The school should arrange a safe collection point where the service will be able to distribute food pack to parents with social distancing. Where parents are unable to collect the parcel, they can tell the school that they have asked a friend or family member to collect it on their behalf.

There is no requirement to provide universal infant free school meals to infant pupils who are not in school.

Support for Residents

If any families have concerns around care, urgent issues around health and wellbeing or lack of access to supplies including food and medicine please advise them to call the Council's free to use helpline:

- 0800 368 5201
- Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm.
- Saturday, Sunday and bank holidays 11am to 4pm for emergencies only.
- covid19support@havering.gov.uk

Further Guidance

All of the Department for Education's [Coronavirus guidance for educational settings can be found on GOV.UK](#). This includes specific guidance on implementing protective measures, answers to frequently asked questions for schools and guidance on issues such as remote education, providing free school meals and attendance, among other things.

DfE coronavirus helpline

Telephone 0800 046 8687



If you have a query about Coronavirus (COVID-19) relating to schools and other educational establishments, and children's social care, in England contact the DfE helpline.

Lines are open from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, and 10am to 4pm at weekends. If you work in a school, please have your unique reference number (URN or UK PRN) available when calling the helpline.