

Covid-19 update from the Education and Skills Team

Professional Advocates for Children in Education, Governor Support, NQTs, Early Years, the Virtual School for Looked after Children and In Year Fair Access

Still battling on

We know that for most Derby headteachers, this is all becoming rather horrible. Unlike difficult times last year, we are all feeling more powerless because most of the safeguards in use last year are no longer available. It is with that understanding that Dr Dewis wrote to you all at the end of last week. Advice only – but good advice which we hope will give you more confidence to make decisions and challenge unsafe practice. Our priority is for the children and young people to have face to face education, but this is being compromised by the actions of some parents. We could all do with a little more central support too – not sure CO2 monitors are the cavalry we need right now.

One of the bright aspects of this whole sorry saga is the way that Derby leaders continue to support each other. Whether it is a listening ear while a headteacher sobs or more practical support, we all have to feel proud that we are still together (if a little weary). Know that you are doing a great job and that NOBODY could be doing this better than you are.

We don't know how to help you more. We want to. We care very much about how Derby leaders, teachers and support staff are feeling. We continue to stand behind you and are here when you need us.

Pauline, Jo and the E&S team

19 Oct 2021

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Flu vaccination programme 2021 to 2022

Guidance

Flu vaccination programme 2021 to 2022: briefing for schools - October 2021 update

Updated 13 October 2021

For the 2021 to 2022 flu season, the flu vaccination programme that already includes all children in primary school will be expanded to additional children in secondary school so that those in years 7 to 11 will now be offered flu vaccination. This significant expansion in the programme is part of the government's wider winter planning to reduce flu levels in the population, and therefore the potential impact on the NHS, when we are likely to see both flu and coronavirus (COVID-19) in circulation. If you want to know more, please follow this link:

[Flu vaccination programme 2021 to 2022: briefing for schools - October 2021 update - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/flu-vaccination-programme-2021-to-2022-briefing-for-schools-october-2021-update)

Webinar for secondary schools on the 12- to 15-year-old Covid-19 vaccination programme

Last week the NHS England Vaccine Deployment Programme hosted a clinician-led webinar for education leaders in secondary schools, on the vaccination programme. A recording of the webinar is now available on the [document sharing platform](#).

School-led tutoring grant through the National Tutoring Programme

School-led tutoring is part of the [National Tutoring Programme](#). All state-funded schools and academy trusts can now access their [allocations for school-led tutoring grant](#) fund payments and can use this information to clarify how much funding they have received to deliver school-led tutoring. The programme went live at the beginning of September and detailed [guidance and conditions of the grant](#) are available.

Changes to the Contingency Framework

Guidance

Contingency framework: education and childcare settings

Updated 13 October 2021

The contingency framework is the document where the DfE describes the principles for managing local outbreaks of COVID-19 in education and childcare settings. It also sets out thresholds for managing COVID-19 cases and when schools should consider seeking public health advice. You are advised to make sure your contingency plans outline how you would operate if your setting was advised to introduce any of the measures described in the contingency framework.

Recent changes reflect the position for people previously considered clinically extremely vulnerable (CEV), the shielding programme and details on when increased COVID-19 testing can be recommended by Directors of Public Health. The DfE has also clarified that education and childcare settings do not routinely need to provide staff details to the NHS Test and Trace Self-Isolation Hub.

In response to recent queries, the DfE have updated the contact tracing 'frequently asked questions' which can be found on the document sharing platforms for [primary and early years](#), [secondary schools, further education and higher education](#) and [children's social care](#).

Some useful links

Health colleagues were asked a couple of questions last week about the schools ordering process for kits and the use of CO2 monitors in school, so we thought it would be useful to share some links to relevant information.

1. [Apply for coronavirus test kits - GOV.UK \(test-for-coronavirus.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/apply-for-coronavirus-test-kits)
2. [Identifying poorly ventilated areas and using CO2 monitors \(hse.gov.uk\)](https://www.hse.gov.uk/ventilation/)
3. ['How to use CO2 monitors in education and childcare settings guide'](#)