

Dear Early Years and Childcare Providers

Please see below this week's Government updates for you, your staff and families.

Updates for the Sector

[NHS Test and Trace: what to do if you are contacted](#) 13 May 2021

Change made: Under 'Customer logs and NHS QR codes', added that designated venues must keep a record of all staff working on their premises, their shift times on a given day and their contact details.

Venues in hospitality, the tourism and leisure industry, close contact services, community centres and village halls must ensure the following:

- ask every customer or visitor (over the age of 16) to provide their name and contact details (unless they have 'checked in' using the NHS COVID-19 app)
- keep a record of all staff working on their premises and shift times on a given day and their contact details
- keep these records of customers, visitors and staff for 21 days and provide data to NHS Test and Trace if requested
- display an official NHS QR code poster so that customers and visitors can 'check in' using the NHS COVID-19 app as an alternative to providing their contact details
- adhere to General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR).

[COVID-19: Guidance for the safe use of multi-purpose community facilities](#) 17 May 2021

The rules on what you need to do when a group enters your venue have changed. You must ask **every** customer or visitor to scan the NHS QR code using their NHS COVID-19 app or provide their name and contact details, not just a lead member of the group. This is to ensure everyone receives the necessary public health advice in a timely manner.

[Maintaining records of staff, customers and visitors to support NHS Test and Trace](#) and [NHS Test and Trace in the workplace](#) 17 May 2021

Updated to add a call-out about the new COVID-19 variant of concern. Refer to the Government guidance [What you can and cannot do](#) for further details.

[COVID-19: guidance on shielding and protecting people defined on medical grounds as extremely vulnerable](#) 17 May 2021

Added link to guidance regarding new COVID-19 variant. This is within the [What you can and cannot do](#) and is the same advice as above.

[Tell HMRC and pay back a Self-Employment Income Support Scheme grant](#) 18 May 2021

New information added explaining when and how to tell HMRC about a tax return amendment if it affects your eligibility or grant amount. Links to more information on penalties and how HMRC can recover overpaid grants have also been added.

Updates for Families

[Public reminded to let in fresh air when meeting others indoors to reduce the spread of COVID-19](#) 17 May 2021

First published. Government launches new campaign backed by medical experts, scientists and businesses urging the public to open windows when meeting friends and family indoors.

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): advice on accessing green spaces safely](#) 18 May 2021

Updated with what you can and cannot do from 17 May. Most restrictions on meeting people outdoors have been lifted; however, gatherings must not exceed 30 people unless covered by a legal exemption.

[Making a support bubble with another household](#) 17 May 2021

Updated to reflect changes in taking step 3 of the roadmap.

You no longer need a support bubble to meet indoors. You can now meet indoors in groups of up to six people, or more if everyone present is from two households. You and your support bubble count as one household.

[Making a childcare bubble with another household](#) 17 May 2021

Updated to reflect changes in taking step 3 of the roadmap.

You no longer need a childcare bubble to provide informal childcare. You can now meet indoors in groups of up to six people, or more if everyone present is from two households.

You and your childcare bubble count as two separate households. This means that you and your childcare bubble cannot meet with another household indoors, unless there are fewer than six people in total or another exemption applies.