

Dear Early Years and Childcare Providers

Please see below information on Contact Tracing, The Department for Education (DfE) Data Collection and on COVID-19 Grant rounds which was included in this month's Bulletin but is also being included here. Also below is a message from the National Day Nurseries Association (NDNA) asking early years providers to take part in a short survey. We were unable to include this request in the Bulletin yesterday as the communication to us came in too late.

As usual we have also provided this week's Government updates for you, your staff and families.

Contact Tracing

Information on contact tracing has changed since 19 July. Visit the Government's [Early Years and Primary Schools Document Sharing Platform](#) to find out more. The Read First Document Index on the opening page provides links to all necessary and updated documents. There is a useful [summary document](#) in relation to contact tracing for children and young people for Step 4 and onwards and also a [Frequently Asked Questions](#) document.

DfE Data Collection

The final DfE data collection for the summer term is today.

The DfE is seeking the views of local authorities on ending the attendance data collection at this point. The DfE is proposing that unless there are significant changes to the guidance around attendance at early years settings in relation to COVID-19 the data collection would not be resumed in autumn. We will update you once we receive confirmation from the DfE.

COVID-19 Grant Round

A new COVID-19 Grant round - **safe reopening of community venues and spaces** - has been launched and can be accessed via this [link](#). Round 1 and 2 have now been extended for a further 2 weeks until 6pm on 3 August 2021

The grant scheme is currently open to receiving bids from initiatives that cover the below areas.

- Engaging communities and reducing risk factors (**deadline extension**)
- Reintegration activities for families with young children or expectant parents (**deadline extension**)
- **Safe reopening of community venues and spaces (new round - open for 8 weeks)**

Further information relating to the specific grant rounds and more information on how to apply or the grant scheme in general can be found [here](#).

NDNA Survey Request

National Day Nurseries Association is looking for crucial information from nurseries and early years settings ahead of the Government's Comprehensive Spending Review. Can you help?

The Government says early years funding rates in England don't need to change, we say they do.

In order to make recommendations to the Government for urgent action, we need to gather facts and figures about how nursery places are funded and how the rise in national minimum wages and business rates have impacted businesses.

We would be most grateful if you could take the time to share this short survey with the early years settings in your area and encourage them to give us their information [here](#) by 2 August, so we can lobby Government for a better deal for nurseries.

As a thank you for their time, nurseries will be entered into a prize draw to win either a £50 TTS voucher or one of two £25 Consortium vouchers.

Updates for the Sector

[Actions for early years and childcare providers during the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) outbreak](#) 14 July 2021

Updated to clarify that, from 19 July, the Government is removing the requirement to wear face coverings in law but expects and recommends that they are worn in enclosed and crowded spaces where you may come into contact with people you don't normally meet. This includes public transport.

[Actions for early years and childcare providers during the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) outbreak](#) 19 July 2021

Change made: We have updated the actions for early years and childcare providers during the COVID-19 pandemic to reflect that we moved to Step 4 on 19 July. This includes removing the section on 'contact tracing until Step 4'. We have also updated sections on clinically extremely vulnerable staff and children.

Main changes to previous guidance

On 19 July 2021, this guidance was updated as follows: **Please see document for full details**

- removed references to Step 4 of the roadmap
- amended the language to reflect the fact that Step 4 has commenced (including removing the section on 'contact tracing until Step 4')
- added a link to the updated Health and Safety: advice for schools, which now incorporates annex A on risk assessment for COVID-19
- clinically extremely vulnerable staff and children.

Staff who are clinically extremely vulnerable staff and children

- Clinically extremely vulnerable (CEV) people are advised, as a minimum, to follow the same guidance as everyone else. It is important that everyone adheres to this guidance, but CEV people may wish to think particularly carefully about the additional precautions they can continue to take.

Children who are clinically extremely vulnerable

- All children who are CEV should attend their setting unless they are one of the very small number of children under paediatric or other specialist care who have been advised by their clinician or other specialist not to attend.

Tracing close contacts and isolation

- Close contacts will now be identified via NHS Test and Trace and education settings will no longer be expected to undertake contact tracing. As with positive cases in any other setting, NHS Test and Trace will work with the positive case to identify close contacts. Contacts from a setting will only be traced by NHS Test and Trace where the positive case specifically identifies the individual as being a close contact. From 16 August 2021, children under the age of 18 will no longer be required to self-isolate if they are contacted by NHS Test and Trace as a close contact of a positive COVID-19 case.

[Maintaining records of staff, customers and visitors to support NHS Test and Trace](#)

20 July 2021

Updated to give advice on how to know if a request from NHS Test and Trace is genuine. Also updated guidance on variants of concern.

[Protective measures for holiday or after-school clubs and other out-of-school settings for children during the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) outbreak](#)

14 July 2021

Updated to clarify that from 19 July, the Government is removing the requirement to wear face coverings in law but expects and recommends that they are worn in enclosed and crowded spaces where you may come into contact with people you don't normally meet. This includes public transport and dedicated transport to school or college.

[Protective measures for holiday or after-school clubs and other out-of-school settings for children during the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) outbreak](#)

19 July 2021

Change made: Updated to remove pre-Step 4 guidance, amend clinically extremely vulnerable information and publish in HTML.

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): advice for pregnant employees](#)

20 July 2021

Updated to reflect the lifting of restrictions as part of Step 4 of the roadmap.

[Work out your turnover so you can claim the fifth SEISS grant](#)

16 July 2021

Change made: Introduction edited to explain that you'll need to tell HMRC about your turnover if you traded in 2019 to 2020 as well as any of the other tax years listed. The section 'How to work out your April 2020 to April 2021 turnover' has been updated with examples of start dates you can use.

[Help and support if your business is affected by coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#) 16 July 2021

Change made: A link to a recorded video and how register for the next live webinar about the Self-Employment Income Support Scheme – fifth grant has been added.

Updates for Families

[What parents and carers need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges during COVID-19](#) 19 July 2021

Change made: Updated to confirm changes from 19 July.

[Guidance for parents and carers of children attending out-of-school settings during the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) outbreak](#) 19 July 2021

Change made: We have converted the guidance to HTML and updated the advice on CEV people to reflect that Step 4 has taken place.

[Red, amber and green list rules for entering England](#) 14 July 2021

Page summary: Countries rated as red, amber or green for Coronavirus (COVID-19) and the rules you must follow to enter England. This was last updated on 14 July 2021.

[Quarantine and testing if you've been in an amber list country](#) 14 July 2021

Changes to international travel rules for amber list countries.