

Dear Early Years and Childcare Providers

Please see below this week's Government updates for you and your staff. There have been no updates for families this week.

We have also included information on what to do if a child or adult is displaying symptoms of or has a confirmed case of COVID-19, a request for help in promoting the Free for Two offer to families and a reminder about booking your place on the next round of Briefing and Networking Sessions.

## Updates for the Sector

[Ofsted: coronavirus \(COVID-19\) rolling update](#) 3 June 2021

Change made: Updated the guidance on paediatric first aid certificates.

"If your paediatric first aid (PFA) certificate expired on or after 1 October 2020, the DfE previously advised that this would be valid until 31 March 2021. The extended deadline for requalification has now passed and providers must have a valid PFA certificate in place".

[Find examples to help you calculate your employees' wages](#) 3 June 2021

Change made: The example for how to calculate the amount you should claim for an employee who is flexibly furloughed during June 2021 has been updated.

[\(COVID-19\) Coronavirus restrictions: what you can and cannot do](#) 8 June 2021

Added guidance for people living in areas with variants of concern.

## What to Do if a Child or Adult is Displaying Symptoms of or Has a Confirmed Case of COVID-19

The following is not new information, it is a reminder of current documents and current requirements. Having recently been asked by some settings whether they have to report cases to the DfE Helpline, we felt it timely to resend the appropriate information.

Please find attached the latest South East Public Health England Edu-settings Resource Pack. Section 1.1 of this document states the following:

*The DfE COVID-19 helpline was introduced to relieve the strain on the local Health Protection Teams (HPTs).*

*Schools and other settings should call this helpline if they require advice about single or multiple cases of COVID-19 for assistance with undertaking risk assessments. However, if an education setting is comfortable managing their own cases and feel that they do not need to call the helpline for support then it is not mandatory to do so.*

Email: [dfc.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk](mailto:dfc.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk)

Telephone: 0800 046 8687 (choose option 1 to notify of a case)

*Helpline opening hours: Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm (plus Saturday to Sunday 10am to 6pm for advice about cases or other COVID-19 related issues).*

*The DfE helpline has an escalation process with the PHE Health Protection Teams and will notify them of any complex cases and issues which might require their input.*

If you have been managing your own cases, you should contact the local Health Protection Team through the DfE Helpline in the following circumstances:

- if the number of cases exceeds 2 within 14 days
- if you have taken the action outlined in Government guidance but are still seeing more cases
- if you are thinking you might need to close because of the number of people affected
- if a child or staff member in your setting has been admitted to hospital
- if you are getting significant interest from local media.

Your local health protection team will advise you on the next steps.

*You must notify Ofsted, or the childminder agency with which you are registered, of any confirmed cases in the setting (either child or staff member). You should also tell Ofsted if you have to close your setting as a result. Report as soon as you can, and in any case within 14 days. Please read the guidance on reporting incidents to ensure all of the information required is included.*

Government Guidance [What to do if a child or adult is displaying symptoms, or is a confirmed case, of coronavirus \(COVID-19\) in an early years setting \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/78444/what-to-do-if-a-child-or-adult-is-displaying-symptoms-or-is-a-confirmed-case-of-coronavirus-covid-19-in-an-early-years-setting) provides information for group settings and childminders.

## **Increasing Free for Two Take-up**

We highlighted in the May Bulletin the work being undertaken to increase Free for Two take-up across the county. We are particularly keen on having some short video clips made by either families or providers to promote the benefits of the offer through social media. If you feel you have a parent/carer who may be willing to promote the offer or you feel you would like to do so yourself, please let us know by emailing [threadsofsuccess@theeducationpeople.org](mailto:threadsofsuccess@theeducationpeople.org).

## **Briefing and Networking Sessions**

We still have some places on the forthcoming Briefing and Networking Sessions so please book your place by clicking on one of the codes below. All events are taking place virtually via Zoom. KCC is introducing a 'Contain Outbreak Management Fund' (COMF), the purpose of which is to support proactive containment and intervention measures in relation to COVID-19, hence mitigating any future, additional adverse impact on children. KCC has asked for our feedback on how this fund can be used practically and most effectively in early years and childcare settings, hence your views on this will be sought at these sessions.

<a href="#">EYC 21/005</a>	South group settings and schools	Tuesday 15 June	4 – 6 pm
<a href="#">EYC 21/006</a>	West group settings and schools	Wednesday 16 June	4 – 6 pm
<a href="#">EYC 21/007</a>	North group settings and schools	Tuesday 22 June	4 – 6 pm
<a href="#">EYC 21/008</a>	East group settings and schools	Tuesday 29 June	4 – 6 pm
<a href="#">EYC 21/011</a>	Childminders and out of school settings*	Wednesday 23 June	7.30 – 9.30 pm

**\* Please note: This event is now open to all settings**

We look forward to seeing you at one of these events.