

This is your daily email to keep you updated on the government's response to coronavirus (COVID-19).

Updated guidance on national restrictions for education and childcare settings

We have updated our guidance on what the [national restrictions mean for education and childcare settings](#) to include further information on the provision of extra-curricular activities, sport and physical education in schools and colleges. This update also includes information for further education providers on the provision of remote education and enrolment during the period of national restrictions.

We have also provided information on the provision of children's services and social care to vulnerable and disadvantaged children and young people, including information on access to respite and leaving care.

The national restrictions are in force up to and including Wednesday 2 December.

Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies (SAGE) paper on the benefits of remaining in education

The Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies (SAGE) has published a paper that provides the [latest evidence of incidence and transmission of coronavirus \(COVID-19\) in schools](#) and the benefits to children and young people of remaining in education. This research shows that closing schools would have a negative impact on children and young people's mental health and development. We are prioritising their education and wellbeing by keeping schools open.

Using the information within this report, the [Department for Education blog](#) provides answers to some key questions.

The information below has not changed since our last update

Department for Education coronavirus (COVID-19) helpline – opening hours

The Department for Education coronavirus (COVID-19) helpline is available to answer questions about coronavirus (COVID-19) relating to education settings and children's social care.

Please listen carefully to all of the available options before selecting the most appropriate option for your nursery, school, college or university.

Please select option 1 or 2 if you require specific advice on the action to take to respond to a positive case of coronavirus (COVID-19) in your setting. This option will take you through to a dedicated team of NHS Business Services Authority advisors who will work through a risk assessment with you to identify close contacts and will inform you what action is needed based on the latest public health advice.

Please select option 3 or 4 for any other questions about coronavirus (COVID-19) relating to education settings and children's social care.

Phone: 0800 046 8687

Opening hours: Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm

Saturday and Sunday from 10am to 6pm

Look up your unique organisation number (UON)

If you have not received your unique organisation number (UON) for ordering new coronavirus (COVID-19) test kits you can [look it up using your unique reference number \(URN\) or your UK provider reference number \(UKPRN\)](#) or by calling the Test and Trace helpdesk on 119.

Department for Education guidance

Our guidance to support education providers, local authorities and parents during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak can be accessed using the links below:

- [Guidance for early years and childcare providers](#)
- [Guidance for schools](#)
- [Guidance for further and higher education providers](#)
- [Guidance for local authority children's services](#)
- [Guidance for holiday or after-school clubs and other out-of-school settings](#)