



Latest Information, Advice, Useful Links and Service Updates

Updated 17 June 2021

This weekly briefing is intended as a resource to keep you up to date with the latest information and advice.

Covid-19 Trusted sources of information

The most recent **verified data on cases in the UK and Norfolk** is available from Public Health England [here](#) and the Norfolk Insights website [here](#).

Everyone has a key role in promoting www.nhs.uk/coronavirus and www.gov.uk/coronavirus as trusted sources of information to the public. It is important to ensure people go to the right sources of information and keep up to date with how to look after themselves.

Keep up to date: We have [a dedicated webpage for coronavirus updates](#) in Norfolk and impact on Norfolk County Council services. This is updated regularly so please do re-visit this page.

Service updates: The most up to date information on council services can be found at [Norfolk County Council services disruptions](#). The council will continue to monitor its services and, if regulations and circumstances change, it will review its current plans.

Latest national announcements

Prime Minister's statement on coronavirus

On 14 June, the Prime Minister gave a [statement on coronavirus](#) and confirmed a four-week delay to step four of the government's roadmap until 19 July due to concerns caused by the Delta variant and to allow for more people to receive their second dose of a COVID-19 vaccine before further easing of restrictions takes place.

The Prime Minister provided an [update on the vaccination programme](#) and confirmed that vaccination greatly reduces transmission and two doses provide a very high degree of protection against serious illness and death.

He also confirmed that the government will bring forward second doses of vaccines for over-40s and the clinically vulnerable groups from 12 weeks to eight weeks. He added that the government has set an earlier target to give every adult in this country a first dose by 19 July, that is including young people over the age of 18 with the online vaccination booking system available to 23 and 24 year olds from 15 June. The proposed extension will be reviewed to see if action can be taken two weeks' sooner on 5 July.

Vaccines

The latest figures show that [over 30 million people have been vaccinated](#) with two doses in the UK. More than 79.8% of people have received a first dose with 57.8% having received their second dose.

[New analysis by Public Health England](#) shows for the first time that 2 doses of COVID-19 vaccines are highly effective against hospitalisation from the Delta (B.1.617.2) variant. The analysis suggests that 2 doses of the Pfizer vaccine are 96% effective against hospitalisations from Covid-19 infection, while 2 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine are 92% effective against hospitalisations.

Covid-19

England remains in Step 3

Following the Prime Minister's announcement of a four-week delay to step four of the government's roadmap until 19 July, step 3 restrictions remain in place.

You can meet people **inside** in a group of:

- Six people or less, or
- No more than two households

Pubs, restaurants and cafes can continue to serve food and drink indoors. You should continue to work from home if you are able to.

However, some restrictions will change on 21 June. From 21 June, there will be changes to the rules on:

- more than 30 people are now able to attend weddings, receptions, and commemorative events including wakes. The number of people able to attend such events will be determined by the number that can be safely accommodated in the venue with social distancing in place.
- For visits in to care homes, [all care home residents will be able to nominate an essential care giver](#). These essential care givers will be able to visit the care home resident, even if the resident is isolating. In most cases, residents who go on a visit out of a care home will no longer need to isolate for 14 days when they return. Decisions on risk will be made following a risk assessment by the care home for each visit out.
- From 21 June, out-of-school settings can organise domestic residential visits for children in consistent groups of up to 30 children. This replaces the current limit of 6 people or 2 households.

[Go to GOV.UK for full details of current restrictions.](#)

Everyone can [get a symptom-free lateral flow test](#) for free.

If you have any of the [coronavirus symptoms](#) you must [self-isolate](#) straightway and [get a PCR test](#). You must continue to isolate if you test positive or are told to isolate by NHS Test and Trace.

Covid hardship support

The Norfolk Assistance Scheme (NAS) helps people who are unable to meet their immediate needs or need practical support to set up home. There are many people in our community who need this support.

The scheme can therefore help people who are struggling because of coronavirus, for example those who have been furloughed, are on reduced hours or have been made redundant.

[Further information is available here.](#)

Social care

Norfolk Safeguarding Adult Board launches new website

This week, the Norfolk Safeguarding Adult Board has launched their new and improved website. You can view it here:

www.norfolksafeguardingadultsboard.info

Communities

Healthy Libraries Connect – Digital Health Hub

No need to wait on the phone to speak to your GP surgery – your local library can help people to learn how to sign up for online services* in a simple, free, one to one session.

*including booking appointments, repeat prescriptions, finding health information for long term conditions, such as diabetes, arthritis, asthma and support using other NHS digital services. Sessions may be offered online whilst COVID restrictions are in place.

To book a place, please email our Digital Health Hub at libraries.icconnect@norfolk.gov.uk or call 01603 774777.

Education and settings

Although there are still daily changes, the overall position is stabilising in Education settings. It is accurate at the time of writing 17/6/21.

Schools

We are unable to provide information on attendance rates this week due to an issue with DfE data. We are working on this issue and will aim to return to normal reporting on school attendance rates next week.

Post 16's

746 young people are currently NEET, this is 4.3% of 16-18 year olds.

At this time of year, we are supporting young people who have not already applied to continue their learning to make applications. By the end of September all young people should have a suitable offer of learning. This is called the September Guarantee. Currently 72% of year 11 and 44% of year 12 students have an offer of learning to take up in September.

Short Stay School for Norfolk are one of the 14 development schools in England promoting apprenticeships to cohorts of young people with very low progression into those routes. The contract for this has now been taken over by NCC Participation & Transitions Strategy team.

180 young people with SEN will be supported with independent travel training over the summer months.

Early Years

This week say 670 settings open with 14,750 children attending. Of those 4,631 are children of critical workers, and 733 are vulnerable. Of the vulnerable children 255 have a social worker and 134 have an EHCP.

Business and economy

SME Brexit Support Fund

Earlier this year, the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, Rt Hon Michael Gove MP, [announced](#) a £20 million small and medium sized businesses (SME) Brexit Support Fund to support SMEs to adjust to new customs, rules of origin, and VAT rules when trading with the EU.

The Fund will help businesses to prepare for the implementation of import controls which come into effect from July 2021 and **will close on 30 June** or earlier if all funding is allocated before this date. Councils are encouraged to share the [details of the fund to local businesses](#).

General updates

Norfolk Fire & Rescue Service Community Engagement

Earlier this year, we invited Norfolk's primary school children to 'Ask a Firefighter' a question, which led to the creation of a 30-minute educational video for our schools. Within the video, we have answered more than 50 questions from Norfolk children- with a weird and wonderful range of questions posed!



We have also created a version of the video for the wider public, viewable here, <https://youtu.be/PWLIhmL80Ik>

During the Covid-19 pandemic, our crews have been unable to carry out their usual schools visits, so this is just one of the ways we used digital means to help us engage with our communities. We were reliant on our staff to help with the filming due to the restrictions in place on fire stations.

Please share the link with your contacts and help us to spread some safety messaging to our county's families and young people.

We hope to resume schools visits as soon as we are able to.