

Dear Early Years and Childcare Providers

Please see below this week's Government updates for you, your staff and families. Also included below is a message from the Government's Kickstart Scheme about a Teams Information Session.

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.

[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.

[COVID-19 vaccination: guide for employers](#) 12 July 2021

First Published: Page summary: Information for employers about the COVID-19 vaccination programme.

[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.

Updates for Families

[What parents and carers need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges during COVID-19](#) 8 July 2021

Published new guidance including updates on testing, face coverings, contact tracing, isolating and bubbles, which come into force from Step 4 of the Roadmap. The current guidance (dated May 2021) remains in place until Step 4.

This was revised again on 14 July, to clarify 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.

[Guidance for parents and carers of children attending out-of-school settings during the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) outbreak](#) 8 July 2021

Change made: They have added out-of-school settings: COVID-19 guidance for parents and carers which applies from Step 4. This guidance outlines the removal of restrictions in these settings, such as keeping children in consistent groups (bubbles), wearing face coverings in classrooms and communal areas and in community settings, limits on parental attendance, and restrictions on group sizes for residential visits.

This was revised again on 14 July 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.

Message from Kickstart – Teams Information Session

The session is approximately 45 minutes which includes a presentation and Q&A time. We will be able to offer support to employers who may be interested in the scheme but are not sure if they are eligible or require more information. The scheme is open to any provider who feels they may be able to offer a funded placement to a young person in Kent for six months including sole traders.

If providers are unable to attend the session we can still provide information and support by contacting us on the email below where they can also request invitations.

Session details – Thursday 22nd July 2-3pm

To attend the session providers will need to request an invitation by emailing kent.kickstartteam@dwp.gov.uk or call 07385427314 9-5pm.