



## Slough COVID-19 Update for Education Providers Edition 2: W/C 15.02.2021

**The notification of cases to both DfE and duty desk will NOT change**

Slough CV19Notifications:  
[CV19Notifications@slough.gov.uk](mailto:CV19Notifications@slough.gov.uk)

Thames Valley Health  
Protection Team (TVHPT):  
03442 253 861

### NSPCC: Coronavirus Helpline

The NSPCC Helpline can be reached 24 hours a day by email, at [help@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:help@nspcc.org.uk) or through its online reporting form on the main NSPCC website. Helpline practitioners can be contacted on **0808 800 5000** Monday to Friday 8am-10pm or 9am-6pm at the weekends.

### DfE coronavirus helpline |

Telephone **0800 046 8687**  
If you have a query about coronavirus (COVID-19) relating to schools and other educational establishments, in England contact the DfE dedicated helpline.

### Coronavirus

Department for Education Coronavirus Helpline

0800 046 8687

8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday)

10am to 4pm (Saturday and Sunday)

**\*\*Weekly updates with all changes nationally and locally will be shared through the LINK.**

*Please note the information and links are provided to the relevant documents, which are being updated on an ongoing basis and are subject to change. These are correct as at date 17.02.2021.*

### COVID SCHOOLS PROGRAMME OFFICER

Heather Cook continues to be the single point of contact (SPOC) for enquiries from education settings requiring COVID support and advice locally. Heather supports schools and colleges experiencing an outbreak. She is available to provide the latest guidance on contact tracing requirements, bubble size, PPE, staff working and risk assessments. Heather is available for technical advice/support around the national roll out of the Lateral Flow testing programme in schools and the national vaccination programme.

Please contact Heather on [heather.cook@slough.gov.uk](mailto:heather.cook@slough.gov.uk) | **07837 725 098**

**The government is set to make an announcement on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2021 in relation to potential school opening from 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021. Further updates will be shared as soon as they are available.**

**This bulletin highlights key areas related to COVID-19 in education settings and details of local community testing for sharing information with your school community. Also included is FAQ's at the end of the bulletin of key areas.**

### SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL HEALTH AND SAFETY TEAM

Slough Borough Council Health and Safety Team provide advice to all schools during Lockdown and will support schools where it has been identified that there has been a potential transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19) through more than one case of COVID-19 in a school or workplace.

The Health and Safety Team post relevant documents onto The Link which are available to all. The Health and Safety Team can be contacted at [healthandsafety@slough.gov.uk](mailto:healthandsafety@slough.gov.uk)

## BACK TO BASICS

### National Lockdown – Stay At Home continues:

It is now [the law](#) that you must not leave, or be outside of your home except where necessary

#### If you must **leave your home**:

- stay at least 2 metres away from people you do not live with or who are not in your support bubble
- reduce the time spent in crowded areas where it may be difficult to socially distance (such as shops and supermarkets)
- avoid direct contact and face to face contact with people you do not live with

#### Remember the basics of good hygiene:

No matter where you are or what you are doing, follow the basic rules of good hygiene:

- washing your hands
- cleaning your surroundings
- covering your nose and mouth when you cough and sneeze

#### Wear a face covering:

There are some [places where you must wear a face covering](#) by law. You should also wear a face covering in indoor places where social distancing may be difficult and where you will come into contact with people you do not normally meet. Wearing a face covering may not be possible in every situation or for some people who are [exempt](#); please be mindful and respectful of such circumstances.

#### Let fresh air in:

Make sure you let plenty of fresh air into your home by uncovering vents and opening doors and windows, even a small amount for a short period of time.

#### Get tested if you have symptoms:

Self-isolate if you have COVID-19 symptoms, a positive COVID-19 test result, you live with someone or are a contact of someone who has COVID-19

Guidance for contacts of people with confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection who do not live with the person can be found [here](#)

**Guidance for households with grandparents, parents and children living together:** where someone is at increased risk or has possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection can be found [here](#)



#### WHAT IS A CLOSE CONTACT?

A close contact means having face-to-face contact with someone less than a metre away (even if a face-covering or face-mask is worn) or being within 2 metres of an infected person for 15 minutes or more



## LATERAL FLOW TESTING IN SCHOOLS

Lateral flow devices (LFDs) provide rapid-result coronavirus (COVID-19) tests. Slough secondary schools began Lateral Flow testing in schools in early January 2021. LFD testing has been made available to all members of staff twice a week and to pupils and students in secondary schools and colleges at the start of every term. Slough primary school staff have been undertaking LFD testing at home twice a week since the end of January 2021.

LFD testing will help identify asymptomatic cases (which make up a third of all cases) and will limit the spread of the virus. Testing, along with the other infection prevention and control measures already in place in schools such as social distancing, can ensure pupils are given the best chance of face to face education.

The lateral flow tests provided to schools and colleges produce a result in 30 minutes and do not require a laboratory to process. Detailed guidance/a testing handbook about LFD testing in schools can be found [here](#) and access for schools to order further resources/testing equipment and report problems can be done via an online contact form: <https://form.education.gov.uk/service/rapid-testing-contact>

Grant funding for the additional costs incurred by secondary schools due to the lateral flow testing programme is currently being assessed. More information about this can be found [here](#)



BLOG

### [A Department for Education video blog](#)

has been produced for teachers, by teachers on keeping staff and students safe with rapid testing

If a **positive case of coronavirus (COVID-19)** is identified in a school or business, remember to inform Slough Borough Council via the CV19 Notifications email drop box at: [CV19Notifications@slough.gov.uk](mailto:CV19Notifications@slough.gov.uk)

A [pro forma](#) for schools has been designed to support schools with the information that is required



### VACCINATION OF SPECIAL SCHOOL STAFF

Vaccination of Special School Staff has been made a Government priority. More information can be found [here](#)

### CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR SCHOOLS

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\):  
financial support for education,  
early years and children's  
social care](#)

[School support recovery  
offer: coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)



## COMMUNITY MASS RAPID TESTING (LATERAL FLOW TESTING) IN SLOUGH

Rapid testing (Lateral Flow testing) is now free for anyone in Slough to access **if you have no symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19)**. If you [have symptoms of COVID-19 and need a test please go the GOV.UK website](#)

One in three people who have coronavirus (COVID-19) do not show any symptoms. The community mass rapid testing programme aims to identify those people who do not have Covid-19 symptoms but who are infectious and could spread the infection to others unknowingly. This means that anyone who has a positive test can be identified and supported to self isolate before they develop symptoms, which will help to reduce the spread of coronavirus.

Stay at home guidance for households with possible coronavirus (COVID-19) infection can be found [here](#)

Rapid tests **take 10 minutes** (but you may have to queue). You'll get the results **within 45 minutes** by email/text or a phone call. [Booking a test](#)

- Initial testing slots are 30 minutes
- You can just drop in but there may be queues and a longer wait
- You will need to provide a mobile phone number or email address when you register for a test at the site
- You will need to bring a charged mobile phone with you. If you do not have a mobile phone, there will be facilities at the site to register
- You will need to bring your own face mask
- You may have to queue for a short time.

**Please note that there are no seating or toilet facilities on site**



Adults can receive a rapid test. Young people aged **16-17** can self-swab or agree to assisted swabbing by a trained professional. They can consent to their own medical treatment without a parent or guardian present. Children aged **12-15** can self-swab or agree to assisted swabbing by a trained professional, with supervision from their parent or guardian. Tests can not be done on people who should be isolating after close contact with someone who is COVID-19 positive.

### SITES FOR SLOUGH RESIDENTS:

**[THE CENTRE, FARNHAM ROAD](#)** Tuesday to Saturday: 8am to 8pm. (Saturday until 6pm) There is parking available

**[LANGLEY PAVILION, LANGLEY](#)** Tuesday to Saturday: 8am to 6pm.

**[ARBOUR PARK](#)** Tuesday to Saturday: 8am to 6pm

More information about the Community Rapid Testing Programme in Slough can be found on: [www.slough.gov.uk/coronavirus/mass-rapid-testing](http://www.slough.gov.uk/coronavirus/mass-rapid-testing)





## ADDITIONAL COVID SUPPORT/GUIDANCE AVAILABLE

### AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS

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

Guidance for parents and carers of children attending community activities, holiday or after-school clubs, tuition and other out-of-school settings can be found [here](#)

### The Slough Covid-19 project – #OneSlough project

In Slough, through the #OneSlough project – a collaboration of local partners including the council, NHS, public health and voluntary and community sector, working to strengthen the ability of individuals and communities to protect themselves from the direct and indirect harms of the virus and provide a holistic approach to support the population of Slough.

There may be vulnerable families you are working with who may benefit from this support.

For more information on the project, to see what support is available and how to reduce your risk of coronavirus head to [publichealthslough.co.uk/campaigns/one-slough](https://publichealthslough.co.uk/campaigns/one-slough)

## COVID-19: GUIDANCE ON SHIELDING AND PROTECTING PEOPLE DEFINED ON MEDICAL GROUNDS AS EXTREMELY VULNERABLE

On 16<sup>th</sup> February 2021, the Government announced that an extra 1.7 million people were being added to the Clinically Extremely Vulnerable (CEV) list and that that these people would need to shield. For Slough, this means that an additional 5,868 people will now have to shield, which is **1 in every 15** (6%) of the Slough population. Information around shielding is available [in a range of languages, including British Sign Language and audio information](#)



### S SCHOOL MEALS

Providing school meals during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak can be found [here](#)



### FURTHER ANSWERS AND QUESTIONS

**Q1: I'VE ALREADY HAD CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19). SHOULD I GET TESTED AGAIN?**

A1: Testing (with either a PCR or a Lateral Flow Flow/Rapid testing kit) is **not** advised for **90 DAYS** after a positive COVID-19 test. The exception to this is **if you are experiencing symptoms of coronavirus** (COVID-19), in which case, you must have a test. It is possible to get COVID-19 more than once.

**Q2: WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS OF CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)?**

A2: The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- **a high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- **a new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- **a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Most people with coronavirus have at least 1 of these symptoms.

**Q3: IS HAND SANITISER EFFECTIVE?**

A3: Proper hand washing with soap and water is the most effective way to protect yourself from infections such as coronavirus. If soap and water is not available and your hands are visibly clean, then hand sanitiser gel can be used.

**Q4: HOW DO I ORGANISE SPECIALIST WASTE COLLECTION FOR LATERAL FLOW TESTING WASTE FROM SCHOOL?**

A4: Waste contractors are able to remove and dispose of all waste generated from the lateral flow testing kits without varying their permit. Your waste contractor can provide information around safe waste removal and disposal. If you want to check which type of rubbish/equipment needs to go in which bags (to cut down on waste and possible costs) there is a table [here](#) which shows the correct disposal of the lateral flow testing equipment.