

Parent / Carer

Date: 19th April 2022

Living with Coronavirus (COVID-19)

As you will be aware, the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care has set out the [next steps for living with Covid-19](#) in England from Friday 1st April.

The universal testing offer has now ended, however, free Covid-19 tests will continue to be available for specific groups, including eligible patients and NHS staff.

New and updated UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) guidance has been issued for the general population, including:

- [guidance for people with symptoms of a respiratory infection including Covid-19, or a positive test result for Covid-19](#)
- [living safely with respiratory infections, including Covid-19](#)
- [ventilation of indoor spaces to reduce the spread of Covid-19 and other respiratory infections](#)
- [COVID-19 guidance for people whose immune system means they are at higher risk](#)

Whilst most of the specific Covid-19 guidance for education and childcare settings was withdrawn on Friday 1st April, it is essential that you adhere to the guidance issued above.

Adults with the [symptoms of Covid-19](#) should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people until they feel well enough to resume normal activities and they no longer have a [high temperature](#).

Children and young people who are unwell and have a [high temperature](#) should stay at home and avoid contact with other people. They can go back to school, college or childcare when they no longer have a [high temperature](#), and they are well enough to attend.

Adults with a positive Covid-19 test result should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 5 days, which is when they are most infectious. For children and young people aged 18 and under, the advice will be 3 days.

We appreciate that the changes in guidance can cause anxiety for some, but it is important that the education of our children is prioritised. The likelihood of serious illness in children is extremely low and after many months of serious disruption, the DfE and the Local Authority continue to be committed to ensuring that all children and young people in Havering have every opportunity to thrive.

Kind regards,



Mark Ansell
Director of Public Health