

Please see the update from Public Health England below dated 19 March:

- The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) testing figures are yet to be updated for 19 March but will be available on [this page](#) shortly. As of 19 March there have been 128 deaths in England. DHSC will publish updated data on [this page](#) on a daily basis at 2pm until further notice. Please be aware that tests are now being prioritised for those who require hospital care for pneumonia or acute respiratory illness – while continuing to investigate outbreaks, ie where several cases are connected, especially in a particular setting such as a care home.
- The Prime Minister has confirmed a daily press conference will now be held to keep the public informed of latest COVID-19 advice and the Government's response. Any relevant updates from today's conference once held, will follow this update if urgent, or otherwise will follow in tomorrow's update. A statement following yesterday's (18.03.20) press conference can be viewed [here](#) confirming schools, colleges and early years settings will close from Monday 23 March, except for children of key workers and vulnerable children. A list of key workers is to be published by Government.
- The [public information campaign](#) has been updated with the a variety of digital, social and print materials available on the [Campaign Resource Centre](#) (CRC).
- Latest PHE guidance can be found [here](#). PHE has also published [Staying at home, for households with possible COVID-19 infection](#) and [Social distancing to protect vulnerable groups](#)
- DfE has set up a [helpline](#) offering guidance for anyone with education related questions.

Other guidance material includes:

- **Coronavirus (COVID-19): residential care, supported living and home care guidance**

[https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-residential-care-supported-living-and-home-care-guidance?utm\\_source=90f9f298-ea26-42fc-879f-a1242684bc03&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm\\_content=immediate](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-residential-care-supported-living-and-home-care-guidance?utm_source=90f9f298-ea26-42fc-879f-a1242684bc03&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=immediate)

- **£2.9 billion funding to strengthen care for the vulnerable**

The funding will help patients who no longer need urgent hospital treatment to return home, making at least 15,000 beds available during the coronavirus outbreak.

[https://www.gov.uk/government/news/2-9-billion-funding-to-strengthen-care-for-the-vulnerable?utm\\_source=ef67b5cf-9df0-4ebc-9535-6d42602f3545&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm\\_content=immediate](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/2-9-billion-funding-to-strengthen-care-for-the-vulnerable?utm_source=ef67b5cf-9df0-4ebc-9535-6d42602f3545&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=immediate)

- **Coronavirus (COVID-19): hospital discharge service requirements**

[https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-hospital-discharge-service-requirements?utm\\_source=95c2cf8f-a9ab-45ae-a350-add59a64926a&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm\\_content=immediate](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-hospital-discharge-service-requirements?utm_source=95c2cf8f-a9ab-45ae-a350-add59a64926a&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=immediate)

- **COVID-19: guidance for employees, employers and businesses**

[https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-employers-and-businesses-about-covid-19?utm\\_source=1bd791c6-678e-4100-9eef-206bac3cf784&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm\\_content=immediate](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-employers-and-businesses-about-covid-19?utm_source=1bd791c6-678e-4100-9eef-206bac3cf784&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=immediate)