

For more information on the Council's current position, in respect of Covid 19 please use this website: [CLICK HERE](#)

Please ensure any information you consult is from a reliable source, including the NHS, or Public Health England.

PROVIDER BULLETIN

Thursday 21 January 2021

COVID-19 VACCINATIONS FOR SOCIAL CARE – PROVIDER ZONE

Please click on the below link and save as bookmark for future reference. All updates regarding vaccinations will be added here. <https://bradford.connecttosupport.org/provider-zone/covid-19-vaccinations-for-social-care/>

NEW SOCIAL CARE CHIEF NURSE

The new Social Care Chief Nurse, Deborah Sturdy, has written to the adult social care workforce. Her role is to support the social care nursing profession, as well as the wider social care workforce. The letter covers a number of key issues which faces adult social care at the moment, including the importance of testing, PPE, and self-isolation (where required to do so).

The letter can be downloaded using this [LINK](#)

VACCINATION INFORMATION FROM DHSC

A range of information has been provided by DHSC about vaccination against Covid-19. As the information is updated regularly we ask that you please don't upload this to public websites or internal intranets and instead share the relevant information with staff in an alternative way.

The document can be found [HERE](#)

ADULT SOCIAL CARE RAPID TESTING FUND

We now have information about the £149m announced before Christmas to help with LFD testing. The new funding is modelled on the Infection Control Fund but it has **different grant conditions which you need to review**. This fund will cover expenditure from **2 December 2020 to 31 March 2021**. Payments should be made within 10 working days by LAs once they receive it.

The funding will be passed to Local Authorities who will distribute:
80% to care homes on a per beds basis, **including residential drug and alcohol services and those the LA does not have existing contracts with** and 20% to support the care sector more generally to implement the increased LFD testing.

COVID-19 HEALTH INEQUALITIES

A recent report from PHE has highlighted an inequality in the number of deaths from Covid for people with Learning Disabilities compared to the general population. Similar inequalities have also previously been identified among BAME communities.

There are a lot of innovative practices in place across many parts of our care system that support people's health needs very successfully but it is clear that this is not embedded across the entire system.

This highlights the importance of understanding conditions of learning disabilities and neuro-diversity (ADHD, Autism). It is vital to ensure people receive the right diagnosis and the right support

Guidance for care staff supporting adults with learning disabilities and autistic adults during the COVID-19 outbreak can be found [HERE](#)

SEED SOVEREIGNTY

Horton Community Farm and the Gaia Foundation are back with #seedweek for the 4th consecutive year. For more information please visit their website [HERE](#)

Horton Community Farm are also putting on mindfulness sessions for the LGBTQ+ Community. If you are interested please email mindfulness@hcf.org.uk

GRAB AND GO FORM FOR PEOPLE WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES

The NHS have produced a grab and go form to put with hospital passports for people with a learning disability who go to hospital with coronavirus. It is not in easy read but is really useful for sharing clear information to support the person with a learning disability should they have COVID-19 and need to go to hospital.

The guide on how to fill in the form with suggestions of useful information is [HERE](#)

The form can be found [HERE](#)

COVID-19 VACCINATION GUIDE FOR OLDER ADULTS

Information around vaccination for eligible older adults has been published. The full guidance along with an easy read leaflet can be found [HERE](#)

COVID-19 SUPPORT TEAM WEEKLY VLOG

The latest instalment of our weekly vlogs has been uploaded and can be reached with the following link:
<https://youtu.be/R4wq5GNjJRA>

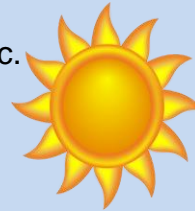
VITAMIN D SUPPLY TO CARE HOMES

As you may be aware the Government has recently announced that they will provide a free 4-month supply of daily vitamin D supplements for residents in residential and nursing care homes in England to help support their general health, in particular bone and muscle health.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/vitamin-d-for-vulnerable-groups/vitamin-d-and-care-homes-guidance>

We are however aware of a number of concerns raised by providers including;

- Delivery and storage space
- How it will be administered - IPC considerations etc.
- Documentation - monitoring
- What happens after the 4-month period?
- Obtaining consent



The Covid-19 Support Team is contacting both the DHSC and CQC to relay these concerns/questions to ensure we best support the residential and nursing home sector and will report back to providers thereafter.

MYTHBUSTER – WAS THE VACCINE DEVELOPED TOO QUICKLY?

The vaccine was developed quickly but this does not make it unsafe. The clinical trials, which examine safety and efficacy, weren't rushed at all. Safety was not compromised in any way. COVID-19 is similar to other coronaviruses we've seen in humans, like MERS and SARS, so there was previous research that could be used to speed up the process. Clinical trials also managed to recruit people very quickly as a global effort meant thousands of people were willing to volunteer.

MYTHBUSTER – CAN I CATCH COVID FROM THE VACCINE?

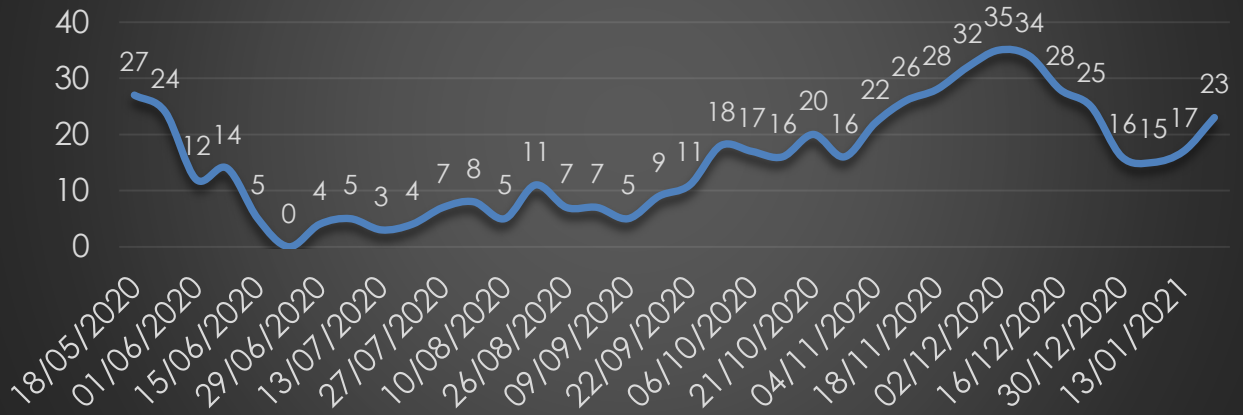
You cannot catch Covid from the vaccines. But it is possible to have caught Covid and not realise you have the symptoms until after your vaccination appointment. It is also possible for a smaller proportion of people to still catch Covid after being vaccinated but these people should experience a milder version of the illness (based on latest research).

If you have any of the symptoms of Covid, stay at home and arrange to have a test.

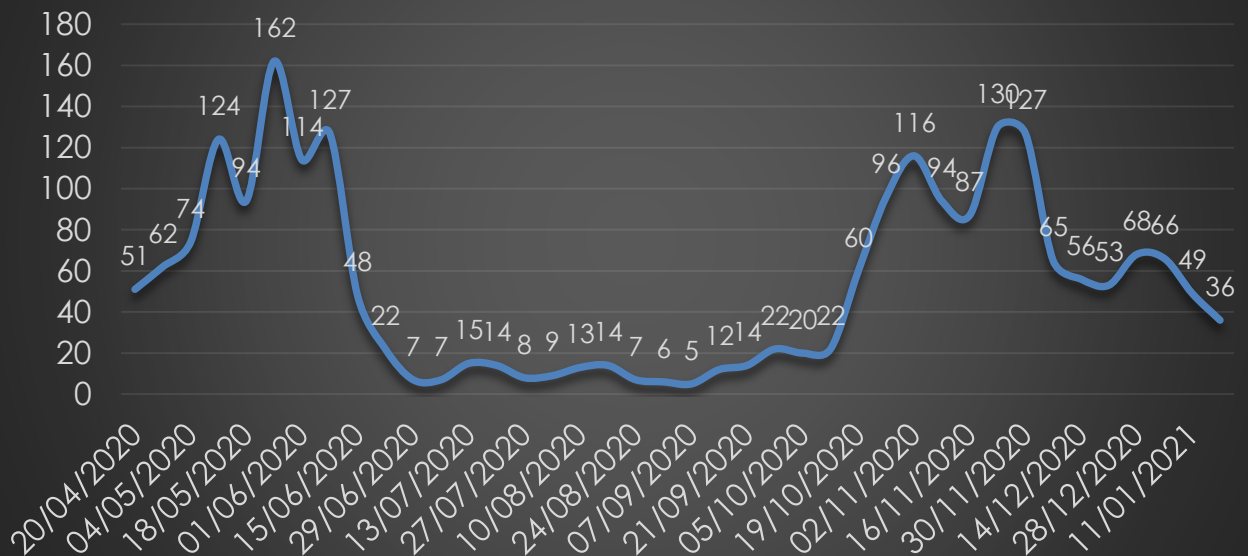
BRADFORD CARE HOMES COVID-19 TRACKER

These and other graphs are available in the Provider Zone. The Covid-19 Support Team are currently working with our intelligence data colleagues to develop a clear, concise, yet informative weekly presentation of the current situation in respect of several areas relating to the current pandemic. We will be liaising with BCA colleagues to ensure this data is useful and accurately reflects the situation here in Bradford. We are aware that some of this data is extremely sensitive and we are working to develop a more secure route for provider access only. More information to follow next week.

Bradford Care Homes with a Covid-19 Outbreak



Number of Covid-19 Infections



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY!

- **Craven Forum Teams Meeting:**
Monday 25 January (14:00-15:30)
- **Occupancy Support Scheme (claims deadline):**
Sunday 31 January 2021
- **Infection Control Fund 2 – 2nd payment:**
This week
- **BCA Registered Managers Reference Meeting:**
Wednesday 20 January 2021 (15:30-16:30)
 - **BCA IPC Meeting:**
Tuesday 26 January 2021 (10:30-11:30)



Hands



Face



Space







YOUR WORKFORCE MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT

The mental health of staff working in the care sector is of the highest priority so please explore the resources below and share with your team.

If your organisation is part of a wider organisation they may also have their own **Occupational Health Department** who staff requiring support can be referred to.

- 1) [WYH Health and Care Partnership](#)
- 2) [Skills For Care](#)
- 3) [My Wellbeing College](#)
- 4) [Provider Bulletin Week 46](#) (see pages 4&5)
- 5) [Eventbrite](#) has lots of useful events coming up
- 6) [Connect To Support](#)
- 7) [Poster](#) for distribution
- 8) [MIND](#)
- 9) [ACAS](#)

OTHER 'TOP TIPS' INCLUDE:

	Limit checking in with the news and social media
	Eat as healthily as you can and keep hydrated
	Keep communicating with family, friends and colleagues
	Make time for the things you enjoy out of work
	Exercise is good for physical and mental health
	Prioritise sleep