

Thursday 30 December 2021

IMPORTANT UPDATES

Due to a number of concerns across the system, we are asking you to restart, or for some of you continue, to use the RAG rating on your SUS profile. We are aware of staffing shortages, Covid concerns and testing issues, reinitiating this system allows us to have a local overview and direct coordination in order to better support you, your staff and your clients.

The SUS dashboard will be monitored daily, including over the bank holiday weekend, so that we can help you with any service concerns you may have during this time. For those of you with access to the Capacity Tracker, this system will only be for your RAG updates, we do not expect you to duplicate information that has previously been reported. Please utilise the SUS for RAG ratings as this will be to help us supporting you - local direct support from your Council. You should have received your individual details to SUS, if this is not the case, please contact the Covid Support Team on Covid19SupportTeam@bradford.gov.uk.

In addition, for any conflicting advice from HPT and Test and Trace, please contact our IPC team for clarity. Also, see below for useful links:

- [Urgent Contingency Support](#)
- [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): adult social care guidance; Infection Control and Testing Fund – Extension March 2021](#)
- [Professionals Visiting Care Homes.](#)
- [Getting your COVID-19 vaccinations](#)
- [Winter Planning Toolkit](#)
- [Infection Prevention and Control](#)

Outbreak Trackers for Services: Documents to support with tracking individual Covid cases, their overall status and when they have reported updates on the reporting systems.

- [Outbreak Tracker - Accommodation Based Services](#)
- [Outbreak Tracker - Community Based Services](#)

Outbreak Checklists:

- [Outbreak Checklist – Accommodation Based Services](#)
- [Outbreak Checklist – Community Based Services](#)

For more links, click [HERE](#) to access our Provider Zone.

Changes to the Self-Isolation Guidance for Health and Social Care Staff

The self-isolation rules for staff who work in health and social care settings changed. From today, there are changes to the start of the isolation period if a staff member receives a **positive PCR test** result. The isolation period includes the **day the symptoms started or the day their PCR test was taken if they do not have symptoms, and the next 10 full days**.

Staff may also be able to end their isolation period before the 10 full days is over if they take an LFD test on day 6 and day 7 (24 hours apart) and receive a negative result on both days. If a staff member has a negative LFD result on days 6 and 7, they can go back to work from day 8, but they will have to keep testing using an LFD test on days 8, 9 and 10, making sure they test at the beginning of each shift.

Note also the guidance continues to say that if the staff member works with people who are especially vulnerable to COVID-19 (as determined by the organisation) a risk assessment needs to be done and consideration given to redeployment for the remainder of the 10 day isolation period if deemed necessary.

The changes to the start of the isolation period and the length of the isolation period can be found in Section 2.2 of the guidance.

Another change is in Section 2.3 of the guidance. If a staff member receives a positive lateral flow test, they should follow the processes listed in Section 2.2 - self-isolate, get a PCR as soon as possible and follow the guidance relating to the outcome of their PCR test in Section 2.2.

Supplies of testing kits - a reminder

DHSC sent out communications earlier this

month to advise care settings to ensure they have enough stocks over the Christmas period and that all orders placed by the 14 Dec should be delivered by the 25 Dec.

All orders between the 15 – 19 Dec should be delivered by the 1 Jan, and any orders placed after that will be delivered after 1 Jan. There will be no deliveries on the 25 or 26, but they recommence on the 27. **Note:** if an organisation is in an outbreak and they need more test kits, they can call 119 for an emergency order.

Increases to Lateral Flow Testing

The testing guidance for care homes has finally been updated to reflect the move from 2 LFTs a week to 3 LFTs per week as well as a weekly PCR test.

Please note that we have been told that these changes will also apply to high risk extra care and supported living settings, and adult day care centres but the guidance for these services is still awaiting an update.



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