

# **COVID-19 Public Health update** **Early Years, Primary &** **Secondary** 27<sup>th</sup> August 2020

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# Introduction to COVID-19

- Coronaviruses: Large group of viruses-some causing less severe cold-like diseases-other causing more severe life threatening illness such as Middle Eastern respiratory syndrome (MERS)
- January 2020: Novel coronavirus was identified. *Knowledge is still developing*
- The virus is called SARS-CoV-2. The associated disease is COVID-19
- Main route of transmission is respiratory droplets (coughing and sneezing) and contact routes (person to person contact and environmental surfaces)
- Incubation period (time from exposure to developing symptoms) is 2-10 days. 50% of people will develop symptoms by day 5
- The main symptoms are a high temperature, cough and anosmia (loss or change to normal sense of taste or smell)

# Understanding the local picture

- Daily and weekly monitoring of a range of indicators of disease transmission, including testing activity, positive cases, hospital activity, mapping and investigation of clusters/outbreaks, deaths
- **No one value or single piece of information gives a complete picture**

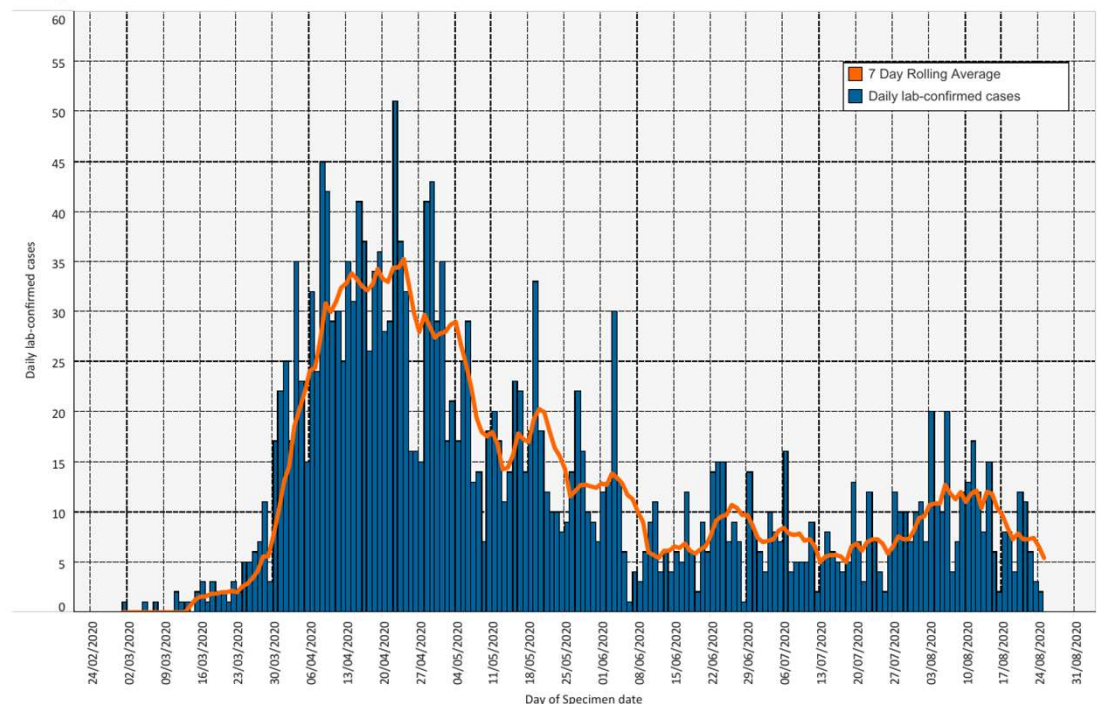
## Overall picture:

- Whilst we have seen an increase in cases in the past fortnight, the number of cases has come back down, and hospital activity and deaths remain low
- The latest data for Bolton is published at [www.boltonjsna.org.uk/coronavirus](http://www.boltonjsna.org.uk/coronavirus)

# Confirmed cases of COVID-19

- Total confirmed cases, as announced on 26th August 2020 = 2238
- Data now includes cases from both pillar 1 and pillar 2 testing
- Only data from five days or more ago can be considered complete
- 7-day rates have fallen in recent days
- Number of new cases remains relatively low despite small rises within the last fortnight

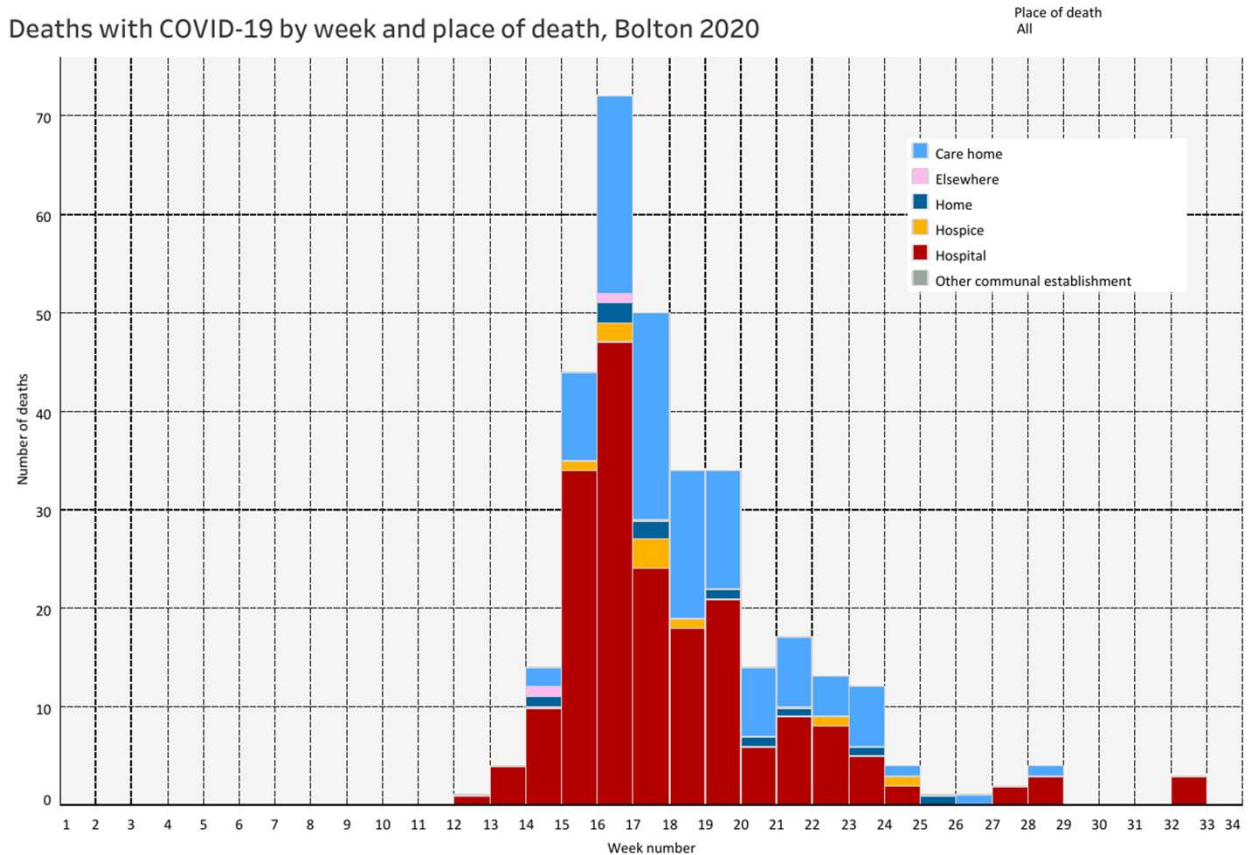
Daily confirmed cases of COVID-19 for Bolton, with Pillar 1 and Pillar 2 cases inclusive



# Deaths by week and place of death

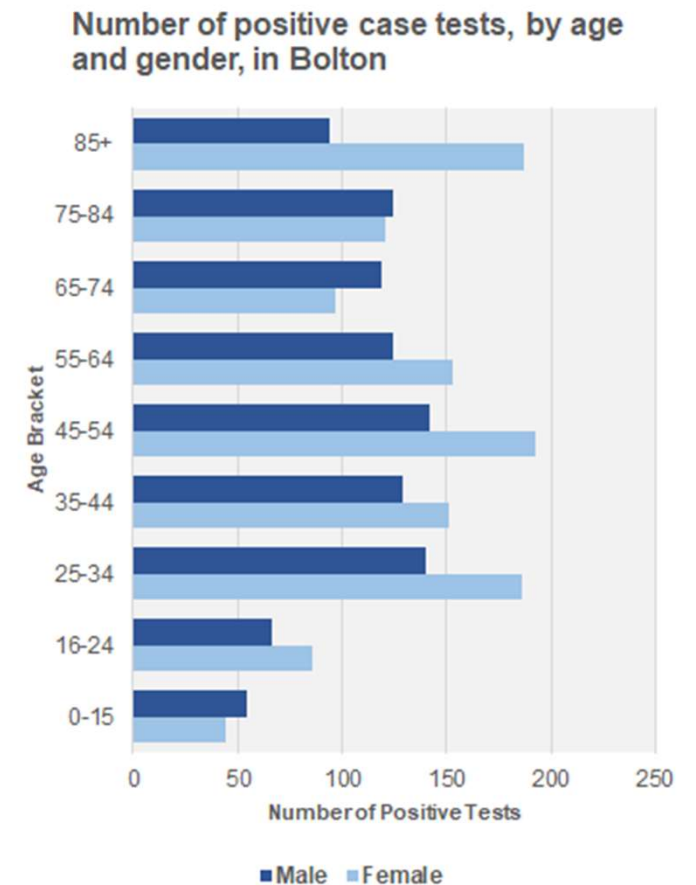
- Weekly deaths trending downwards from peak in week 16
- Numbers of deaths are coming down more slowly than they rose
- There were no deaths from weeks 29 to 31 from COVID-19
- 3 deaths from COVID-19 occurred within Bolton Hospital during week 32
- No deaths from COVID-19 have been recorded for the most current week (week 33, w/c 08/08/20)

Deaths with COVID-19 by week and place of death, Bolton 2020



# Overall positive case tests, by age and gender in Bolton

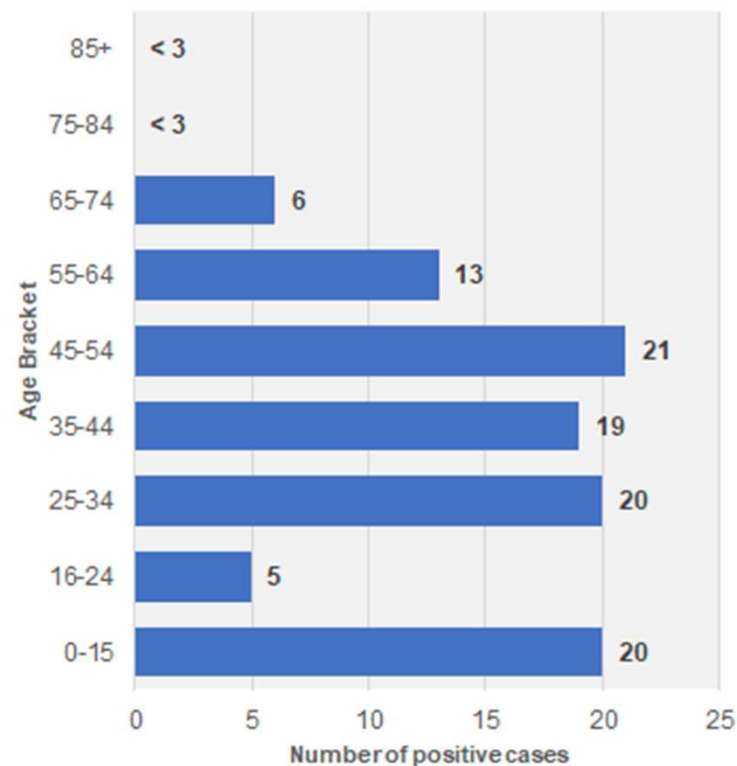
- In total, around 250 (11.3%) of positive case tests have come from Bolton residents aged 0 – 24
- The proportion of males and females, aged 0-24, to test positive are similar
- 86 (4%) positive cases were females, aged 16-24 and 66 (3%) were males aged 16-24



## Positive case tests from the last 14 days, by age in Bolton

- Testing from the week commencing 10/08/20 shows 25 (23.4%) of positive case tests were aged 0-24
- 20 (18.7%) of positive case tests were aged 0-15
- The highest number of positive tests came from residents aged 45-54 (21)

Number of positive case tests from the last 2 weeks of testing, by age, in Bolton

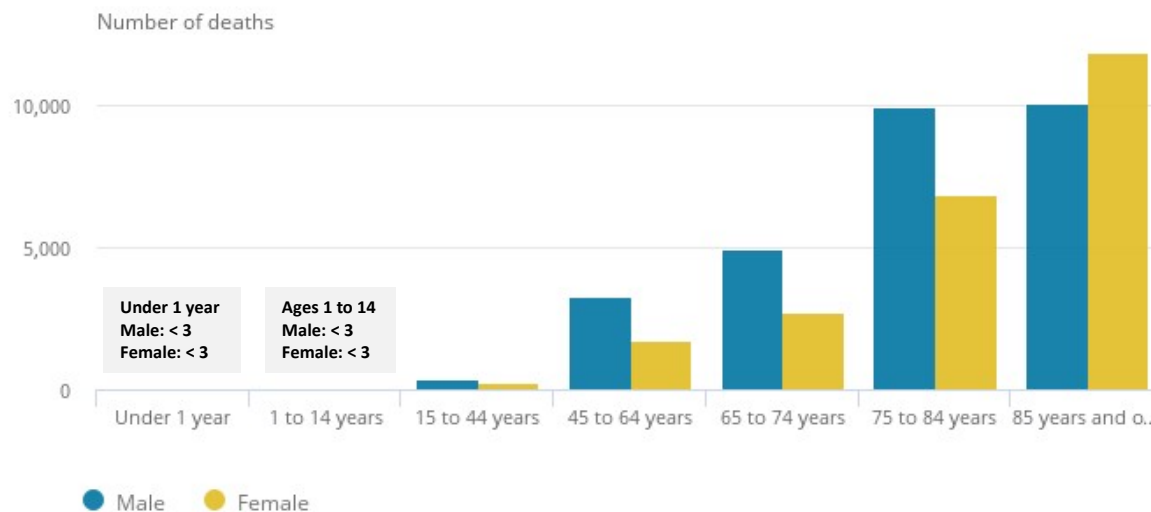


Case tests include: 10/08/20 to 22/08/20

# National deaths from COVID-19 by age

- The number of deaths involving COVID-19 remains higher in the older age groups
- Those aged 90 years and over accounting for the highest number of deaths involving COVID-19 (25.9%)
- In England and Wales, there have been 41 deaths involving COVID-19 under the age of 24 and 7 deaths within the age group 0-14

Number of deaths involving COVID-19 by sex and age group, England and Wales, registered between 28 December 2019 to 14 August 2020





# COVID-19 and children & young people

- **COVID-19 does not appear to be as severe in children** than in adults: children (under 12 years) are often asymptomatic or have a mild course of illness (more older children)
- **Serious COVID19-related illness and death is extremely rare:** mortality seems to be consistent at around 0.01% (*similar to seasonal influenza*)
- It is uncertain how many children in the community have COVID-19. Numbers of confirmed cases have increased but still remain low overall
- There is some evidence that children may be less likely to acquire the infection
- The role of children in transmission is unclear but at this time do not appear to be 'super spreaders' of Covid-19 infection
- Many children, and adults (potentially up to 40%) are asymptomatic. **The approach to take therefore is to consider that everyone could be COVID-19 positive.** This is the best approach when considering effective infection prevention and control measures in our schools and early years settings

(Source: adapted from Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health, 2020)

## **Impact of COVID-19 on children and young people**

- COVID-19 related illness is less severe amongst children and young people
- However, the potential wider impact on the whole population of COVID-19 arising from the measures necessary for control is significant
- the social, psychological and economic impacts of the pandemic are likely to have severe and long-lasting consequences for families in Bolton

# “Missing school is worse than virus for children”

Professor Chris Whitty, 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2020



Watch the BBC Interview: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-53875410>

Read the full statement at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/statement-from-the-uk-chief-medical-officers-on-schools-and-childcare-reopening>

# NHS Test and Trace

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/nhs-test-and-trace-how-it-works>

- Central part of the government's COVID-19 recovery strategy
- Enables easing of blanket lockdown measures
- Provides an early warning if COVID-19 activity is increasing locally, regionally or nationally

**Test** – increasing availability and speed of testing

**Trace** – identify, alert and support those who need to isolate

**Contain** – using data to target approaches for outbreaks or 'flare ups'

**Enable** – improving knowledge of the virus to inform decisions on easing/measures



Got coronavirus symptoms?

**1 Start isolating**

- you for ~~7 days~~ 10 days
- household for 14 days



**2 Book a test**

- NHS.uk/coronavirus
- or call 119

negative for COVID-19



- Household stops isolating immediately
- You stop isolating if you feel well

positive for COVID-19



**3 Share contacts via NHS Test and Trace**

**STAY ALERT > CONTROL THE VIRUS > SAVE LIVES**

If you have been in close contact with someone who tests positive

**1 You may be alerted by NHS Test and Trace**



**2 Isolate for 14 days after close contact**



if you develop symptoms

**3 Book a test**

- Household isolates for 14 days

negative for COVID-19



- Household stops isolating immediately
- You complete 14 day isolation

positive for COVID-19



- You begin new 7 day isolation
- Household completes 14 day isolation

## Who can get a test

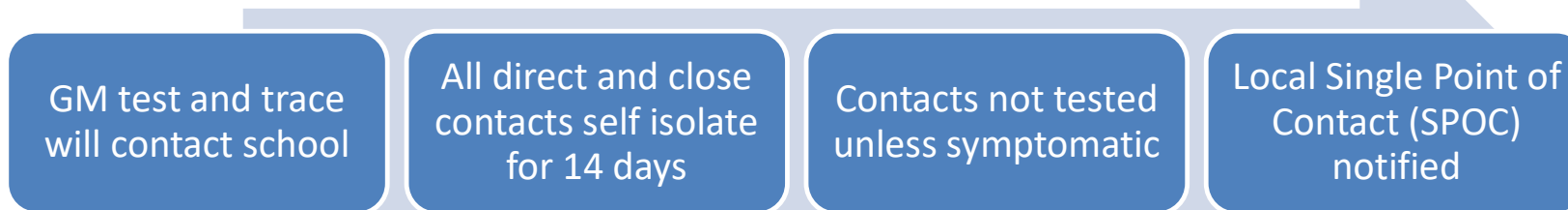
You can get a test:

- for yourself, if you have coronavirus symptoms now (a high temperature, a new, continuous cough, or a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste)
  - for someone you live with, if they have symptoms
  - if you live in England and have been told to have a test before you go into hospital, for example, for surgery
  - if your local council asks you to get a test
  - if you're taking part in a government pilot project
- To book a test online at <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>
  - If you are unable to use the online service you can phone 119

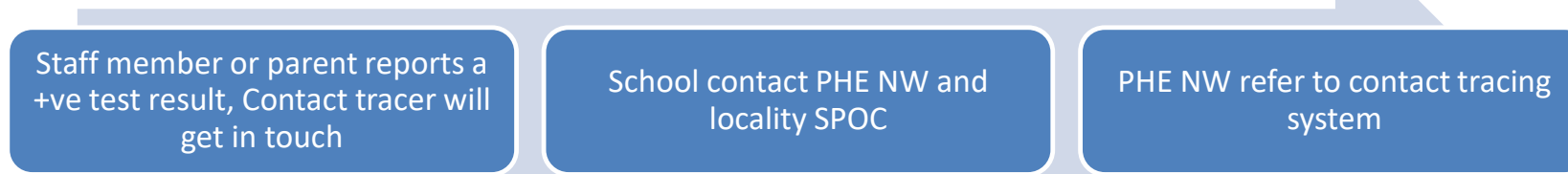
*Work in progress to identify more potential drive and walk through sites in localities. It is a rapidly evolving situation and we will advise schools should anything change.*

# Engaging with the test and trace process (1)

## A single positive case- what should happen



## A single positive case- what might happen



## Engaging with the test and trace process (2)

- **In the event of an outbreak:**

If there are two or more confirmed cases or high levels of absence the GM PHE team will investigate and advise of actions

Local infection prevention and control and Public Health teams will be notified

A multi-agency outbreak control group may be convened to manage the outbreak and support implementation of any action required

The management of every outbreak will vary and is dependant upon individual school circumstances





# Contact details

Please refer to the local **step by step guidance** and action cards, they are updated regularly

- **Bolton SPOC (8.30am-5.30pm Mon-Fri, 8.30am-1.30pm Sat):**  
phone 01204 336004  
[covid19contacttracing@bolton.gov.uk](mailto:covid19contacttracing@bolton.gov.uk)
- **Bolton Infection Prevention and Control Team (Mon-Fri 9am-5pm):**  
phone 01204 390982  
[CommunityInfectionPrevention&Control@boltonft.nhs.uk](mailto:CommunityInfectionPrevention&Control@boltonft.nhs.uk)

## **Public Health England NW**

Phone (9am-5pm) 0344 225 0562

**Out of hours** phone 0151-434-4819

# Frequently asked questions (1)

**Is there updated guidance and action cards for schools?**

*Yes- there is locally produced step by step guidance which is regularly updated to reflect the constantly changing guidance and is available on the Extranet*

**Is there a specific testing strategy for schools?**

*No- schools are one of a number of complex settings where an outbreak may occur. Each setting is unique and the outbreak response may vary. Testing may be part of the response, but we will be advised by PHE as to what this may be.*

## Frequently asked questions (2)

**Should clinically vulnerable staff who live in an area of local lockdown still be shielding?**

*Those staff living in an area of local lockdown should follow the measures imposed locally. These are subject to rapid change*

**Should face masks / coverings be worn in school?**

...

# Face Coverings



## What this means for Bolton with additional local intervention measures:

### *Secondary schools and colleges*

- From 1<sup>st</sup> September, it is mandatory for secondary school children and staff to wear a face covering in communal areas whilst moving around school where social distancing is difficult to maintain.
- Face coverings should not be worn in the classroom during teaching and learning

### *Primary schools and Early Years*

- Children are not required to wear face coverings in schools and early years settings

## What this means for Bolton if additional intervention measures are removed:

- In [England](#), secondary schools will have the "discretion" to require face coverings in communal areas, where social distancing is not possible.
- Face coverings in secondary schools would not be mandatory
- School leaders can decide what is right for their school

# Guidance for full opening: schools\*

## Prevention:

- Minimise contact with individuals who are unwell
- Clean hands more thoroughly and often than usual
- Enhanced school cleaning
- Minimise contact between individuals and maintain social distancing
- PPE and Face Covering as required/indicated

## Response to infection:

- Engage with the NHS Test and Trace process
- Manage confirmed cases within the school community
- Contain an outbreak by following local health protection team advice

# Guidance for Opening Schools – 1

## [Guidance for full opening: schools](#) (Updated 7/08/20)

### Summary

The main public health focus of this guidance is the ‘systems of control’ – the actions the school must take which are grouped into prevention and response. (They are explained in full further down)

### Prevention:

- 1) minimise contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that those who have coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms, or who have someone in their household who does, do not attend school
- 2) clean hands thoroughly more often than usual
- 3) ensure good respiratory hygiene by promoting the ‘catch it, bin it, kill it’ approach
- 4) introduce enhanced cleaning, including cleaning frequently touched surfaces often, using standard products such as detergents and bleach
- 5) minimise contact between individuals and maintain social distancing wherever possible (including advice on grouping of children)
- 6) where necessary, wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE)

### Numbers 1 to 4 must be in place in all schools, all the time.

Number 5 must be properly considered and schools must put in place measures that suit their particular circumstances.

Number 6 applies in specific circumstances.

### Response to any infection:

- 7) engage with the NHS Test and Trace process
- 8) manage confirmed cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) amongst the school community
- 9) contain any outbreak by following local health protection team advice

Numbers 7 to 9 must be followed in every case where they are relevant.

The remains of the guidance are focused on the running of the school, covering school operations, curriculum, behaviour and pastoral support, assessment and accountability, and contingency planning for outbreaks (full list at end of document)

## Guidance for Opening Schools – 2

- [Transport to school and other places of education: autumn term 2020](#) – LA focused but relevant to schools as: Part A provides guidance for local authorities on managing the capacity of, and demand for, public transport, and increasing capacity of both public and dedicated home to school or college services, so that children can travel safely to and from school or college. Part B provides guidance about the provision of dedicated home to school or college transport in the autumn term.
- [Protective measures for out-of-school settings during the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) outbreak](#) (updated 20/08/20) - Lays out what is expected of wraparound care – including how to group children within the out of school settings
- [Actions for early years and childcare providers during the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) outbreak](#) (updated 27/07/20) - Links to [Protective measures for out-of-school settings during the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) outbreak](#) and provides further detail of out of school care.
- [What parents and carers need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges in the autumn term](#) (Updated 31/07/20) - Handy for provision of information to parents.
- [Safe working in education, childcare and children’s social care](#) (updated 21/07/20) - Further information on safe working in settings – but much of it covered in [Guidance for full opening: schools](#)



# Thank you!

## Acknowledgements:

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- Shirley Goodhew, Consultant in Public Health
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The latest data for Bolton is published at [www.boltonjsna.org.uk/coronavirus](http://www.boltonjsna.org.uk/coronavirus)