

Advice on Reopening Voluntary and Community Sector Services

29 June 2020



THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF
KENSINGTON
AND CHELSEA

Community Centres

- **Community centers can only be open for the following services:**
- For the purpose of hosting essential voluntary activities and urgent public services, such as food banks and homeless services.
- Temporarily to host a blood donation session for these services only. The government strongly advises that Public Health England guidelines are followed.
- For early years childcare provided by a person registered on the Early Years Register under Part 3 of the Childcare Act 2006.
- To host indoor markets

Guidance on premises can be found here

- **The government strongly advises against community centres opening for indoor fitness and sport activity.**
- **We do not recommend reopening community centres fully until clearer advice is available from government. See page 5.**

Working Safely During COVID-19

- [Guidelines](#) have been developed for working safely during COVID-19. There are five key points for working safely:
 1. Carrying out a COVID -19 risk assessment ensuring compliance with social distancing and cleanliness standards*
 2. Develop Cleaning, hand washing and hygiene procedures.
 3. Help people to work from home.
 4. Maintain 2 metre social distancing where possible.
 5. Where people cannot be 2 metre apart, manage transmission risk.
- * Emphasis that 2m is the best social distancing guide. 1m is only where 2m cannot be met and relaxation is by exception.

Further Advice and Guidance

- Advice and guidance on reopening services will be available on the RBKC website.
- If you would like someone from the Council to help you understand the advice and guidance on reopening services, please email:
- Covid19VCS@rbkc.gov.uk
- If you deliver your services from an RBKC owned premises (even if this is shared with other service providers) and you would like to know how we can help, please indicate this in the email.
- For organisations delivering services from other landlords' premises, we advise you to contact your landlord in the first instance. Do get in touch if this is proving difficult.

Specific types of activities

- The government is advising that premises such as activity clubs, community centres and youth clubs can reopen, and will need to follow COVID-19 Secure guidelines. You should try to limit your social interaction to your own household or one other
- Children should be advised to maintain social distancing and limit contact with anyone they do not live with. They should only be attending these groups with members from one other household. The club should also follow COVID-19 Secure guidance
- Further guidance is available from the National Youth Agency by visiting:
<https://nya.org.uk/guidance/>
- Updated guidelines on places of worship:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-for-the-safe-use-of-places-of-worship-from-4-july/covid-19-guidance-for-the-safe-use-of-places-of-worship-from-4-july>

Sport and Recreation Sites

- Sports courts including tennis courts, bowling greens and playing spaces can reopen.
- As facilities reopen, ensure disabled people and those with access requirements can safely access the sport and activities in line with social distancing guidelines.
- It is recommended that you limit any sharing of equipment.
- Indoor facilities apart from toilets should remain closed.
- Water sports on open water ways are allowed provided guidance on social distancing is observed.
- Outdoor gyms and playgrounds should remain closed however will be able to reopen from the 4th July.

More guidance on the phased return of sport and reaction is available [here](#).

Clinically Vulnerable Groups

- People aged 70 or older (regardless of medical conditions)
- People under 70 with an underlying health condition
 - chronic (long-term)
 - mild to moderate respiratory diseases, chronic heart disease,
 - chronic kidney disease
 - chronic disease,
 - chronic neurological conditions,
 - a weakened immune system being seriously overweight
 - pregnant women
- If you have any of the following health conditions, you may be clinically vulnerable, meaning you could be at higher risk of severe illness from coronavirus.
- These groups are told to stay at home as much as possible and, if you do go out, take particular care to minimise contact with others outside your household or support bubble.
- More information can be found [here](#)

Guidance for Extremely Vulnerable People [here](#)

- People at greatest risk of severe illness from covid-19 includes:
 - Solid organ transplant recipients
 - People with specific cancers
 - People with severe respiratory conditions
 - People with disease that significantly increase their risk of infections
 - People who have a compromised immune system
 - Pregnant women with significant heart disease
- If you choose to spend time outdoors, this can be with members of your own household. If you live alone, you can spend time outdoors with one person from another household (ideally the same person each time).
- You should stay alert when leaving home: washing your hands regularly, maintaining social distance and avoiding gatherings of any size.
- You should not attend any gatherings, including gatherings of friends and families in private spaces, for example, parties, weddings and religious services.
- You should strictly avoid contact with anyone who is displaying symptoms of COVID-19 (a new continuous cough, a high temperature, or a loss of, or change in, your sense of taste or smell).

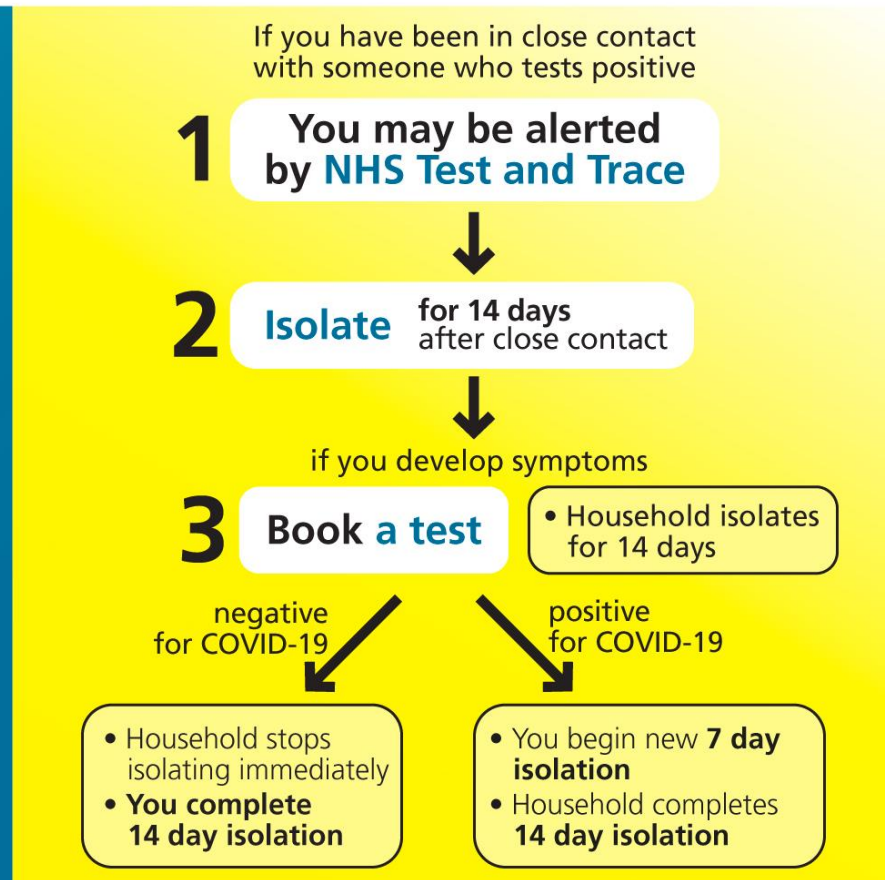
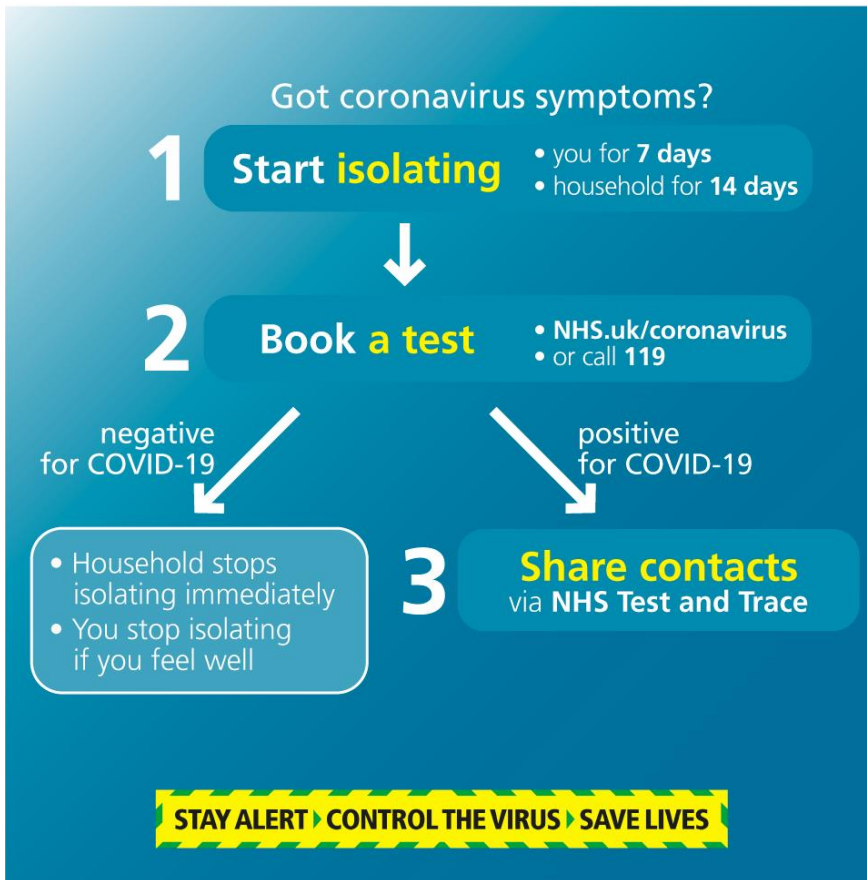
Wearing a Face Covering

- You must wear a face covering at all time on public transport or when attending a hospital as a visitor or outpatient.
- If you can, you should also wear a face covering in enclosed public spaces where social distancing is not possible and where you will come into contact with people you do not meet.
- Evidence suggests that wearing a face covering does not protect you. However, if you are infected but do not yet have symptoms it may provide some protection for others you have come in to contact with.

More guidance on wearing a face covering is available [here](#)

Mental Health Resources

- [Every Mind Matters](#) - Visit NHS Every Mind Matters to get your free online personal Mind Plan including simple tips and advice for you to look after your mental wellbeing during Coronavirus.
- [Good Thinking](#) - If you are anxious, stressed, depressed or having trouble sleeping because of coronavirus? This has NHS-approved mental health tools and advice to support you.
- [Community Living Well](#) - services are available for people aged 16 and over for people registered with a GP in Kensington and Chelsea
- [The NHS Single Point of Access Line](#) - call 0800 0234 650 – open 24 hours a day, seven days a week
- You can call NHS 111 if you or someone you know needs urgent care, but it's not life threatening
- [The Samaritans](#) – call 0330 094 5717 or freephone 116 123 – open 24 hours a day, seven days a week
- [The Listening Place](#) – call 020 3906 7676 – open from 9am to 9pm, seven days a week



NHS Business as Usual

- What to do if you're unwell.
- For help from a GP – use your GP surgery's website, use an online service or app, or call the surgery.
- For urgent medical help – use the NHS 111 online service or call 111 if you're unable to get help online.
- For life-threatening emergencies – call 999 for an ambulance.

If you're advised to go to hospital, it's important to go.

Latest guidance from gov.uk is

- PM announces easing of lockdown restrictions: 23 June 2020: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-announces-easing-of-lockdown-restrictions-23-june-2020>
- Prime Minister's statement to the House on COVID-19: 23 June 2020: <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/prime-ministers-statement-to-the-house-on-covid-19-23-june-2020>
- COVID-19: guidance on shielding and protecting people defined on medical grounds as extremely vulnerable: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19?utm_source=6c143f42-97c4-47d7-a3f1-2cbba28a960e&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=daily
- Actions for early years and childcare providers during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures>
- Meeting people from outside your household from 4 July: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/meeting-people-from-outside-your-household-from-4-july?utm_source=c821d5fe-0712-4c30-95b0-471a85071286&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=daily
- Opening certain businesses and venues in England from 4 July 2020: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/opening-certain-businesses-and-venues-in-england-from-4-july-2020?utm_source=a2bfb513-c2d3-4510-8c4f-8ac34b24537d&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=daily
- Working safely during coronavirus (COVID-19): https://www.gov.uk/guidance/working-safely-during-coronavirus-covid-19?utm_source=46816538-975c-422b-bdb7-20ee0a378642&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=daily
- Coronavirus outbreak FAQs: what you can and can't do after 4 July: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/working-safely-during-coronavirus-covid-19?utm_source=46816538-975c-422b-bdb7-20ee0a378642&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=daily