

Local context

Positive cases of Covid-19 within schools

The County Council has created a new [webpage](#) which lists schools within Hampshire that have reported a positive case of Covid-19. The webpage which went live yesterday (24 September), will be kept up to date to reflect current cases.

No schools in Hampshire have been fully closed due to Covid-19. However, where cases have been reported it may mean that one or more bubbles will be self-isolating. In some cases, there is no requirement for a bubble to isolate, for example if the case of Covid-19 relates to a member of a school's administrative team who does not have direct contact with teachers or children.

Supporting businesses with NHS Test and Trace requirements

The County Council is supporting local businesses understand and meet the new legal requirement from yesterday (24 September) for them to download and display a QR poster - which is being launched as part of the national Covid-19 NHS Test and Test programme.

Letters have been circulated to businesses with information and signposting. In addition, the [Keep Hampshire Safe - information for businesses](#) webpage has been updated and messages are also being promoted across social media.

Communications and promotion of the NHS Covid-19 app

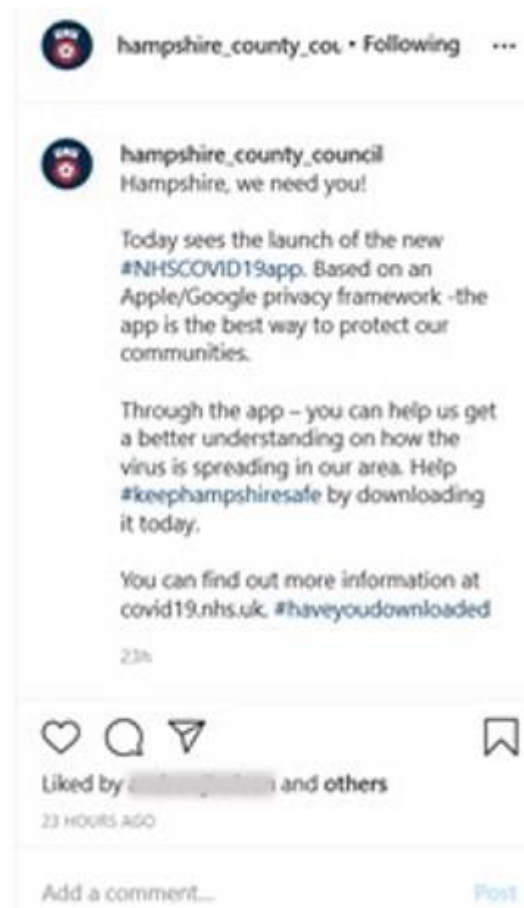
The County Council is urging Hampshire residents to download and use the new [NHS Covid-19 app](#). The official contact tracing app for England and Wales went live yesterday (24 September) and is available to download for free on both Apple and Android phones for anyone aged 16 or over.

The app has features that include contact tracing using bluetooth, risk alerts based on postcode district, QR check-in at venues, symptom checker and Covid-19 test booking.

The County Council has also reminded residents that if they visit one of our venues, they will see the QR posters on display to enable them to easily 'check-in'.

The app has been promoted widely across social media since its launch, including the corporate Facebook profile, reaching **over 50,000** users.

Over the past seven days the County Council has reached nearly **150,000 people** on social media, reminding them of the key public health messages including self-isolation, the rule of six, safer travel and the hands-face-space message. There have also been around **12,000** views of the County Council's dedicated Covid-19 webpages which include advice, information and the most up to date data on viral infection rates across the county.



COVID ZERO Heroes

Leading children's author and illustrator, Nick Sharratt, has designed a series of posters for young patients at Southampton Children's Hospital to colour in. The posters aim to help remind other people about the importance of protecting hospitals from the transmission of Covid-19. For more information and to download the posters, visit the [UHS website](#).

National context

Communities

Updates to guidance

The Government yesterday (24 September) updated key pieces of guidance in line with the new restrictions announced by the Prime Minister on 22 September. These include:

- [guidance for small marriages and civil partnerships](#)
- [guidance on closing certain businesses and venues in England](#)
- [guidance for the safe use of multi-purpose community facilities](#)
- [guidance for the safe use of places of worship and special religious services and gatherings during the pandemic](#)

Children and education

Testing for children

The Chief Nurse and Interim Chief Medical Officer of NHS Test and Trace have [written](#) a letter to parents and guardians outlining when they should book a Covid-19 test for their child (i.e. if they have any of the three Covid-19 symptoms: high temperature, new continuous cough or a loss or change in taste or smell).

Teaching during Covid-19

The Department for Education has [updated](#) the information, guidance and support for teachers and leaders on educating children during the Covid-19 outbreak with new information on remote education expectations and remote education webinars.

Adults' social care and public health

NHS Covid-19 app

Baroness Dido Harding has written to local authority chief executives regarding the launch of the new NHS Covid-19 app. Councils have been asked to collectively support the launch by using communications channels to encourage employees, suppliers, customers and families to download and use the app. The relevant assets are available to download [here](#).

Vaccine trials

The Government has [confirmed](#) that ten thousand UK volunteers will from today (25 September) be invited to join a phase 3 Covid-19 vaccine trial.

NHS Test and Trace

The Department of Health and Social Care has released the latest [NHS Test and Trace statistics](#) for 10-16 September. The figures show that more than 1 in 10 people in England have been tested for Covid-19 at least once since the service launched.

Services for people who use drugs or alcohol

The Government has [updated](#) the guidance for commissioners and service providers for those dependent on drugs or alcohol so that it is in line with regulations limiting the number of people permitted to attend a support group to 15.

Economy and business

Winter Economy Plan

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Rishi Sunak, yesterday (24 September) outlined additional government support for businesses and workers impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic in his [Winter Economy Plan](#).

In a [speech](#) to Parliament, the Chancellor announced a package of measures including a new Job Support Scheme, extending the Self Employment Income Support Scheme, a 15% VAT cut for the hospitality and tourism sectors, and help for businesses in repaying government-backed loans.

Specific guidance has been released on:

- [the deferral of VAT payments](#)
- [the Self-Employment Income Support Scheme grant extension](#)
- [the new Job Support Scheme](#)

Autumn Budget cancelled

The Treasury has [said](#) that there will be no Budget this autumn because of the Covid-19 pandemic. A spending review to set out the overall shape of government spending will reportedly still go ahead.

Extension to insolvency measures

The Government has [announced](#) that measures put in place to protect businesses from insolvency will be extended.

Local Restrictions Support Grant

The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy has [issued](#) guidance on the Local Restrictions Support Grant (LRSB) which supports businesses that have been required to close due to temporary Covid-19 local lockdown restrictions.

In addition, guidance has been [published](#) for local authorities setting out details of the LRSB.

Economic impacts

The Office for National Statistics has [published](#) experimental data on the UK economy, detailing the impact on businesses from the Covid-19 outbreak. Data is from the Business Impact of Coronavirus Survey; a two-weekly survey designed to estimate the impact over the previous two weeks and the expectations for the following two weeks.

Environment, transport and travel

Travel corridors

The Government has [announced](#) that Denmark, Iceland, Curaçao and Slovakia will be removed from list of travel corridors for UK arrivals, following data showing a significant increase in confirmed cases. People arriving in the UK from these destinations from 4am Saturday 26 September will need to self-isolate for two weeks.

National Covid-19 data

As of 4pm on 25 September, the total number of lab-confirmed cases was **423,236**. The daily number of lab-confirmed cases was **6,634**. The total number of Covid-19 associated deaths within 28 days of a positive test was **41,936**, with **40** deaths reported on the day. The data is available to [view online](#).

The R number range for the UK is **1.2-1.5** and the growth rate range is **+4% to +8%** per day as of 25 September.

Additional links

- Hampshire County Council webpages on coronavirus (including links to press releases): <https://www.hants.gov.uk/socialcareandhealth/coronavirus>

- Latest information on coronavirus: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>
- NHS information on coronavirus: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>
- FAQ from the Cabinet Office: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-outbreak-faqs-what-you-can-and-cant-do/coronavirus-outbreak-faqs-what-you-can-and-cant-do>
- PPE guidance hub: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/coronavirus-covid-19-personal-protective-equipment-ppe>
- Guidance for local government: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-local-government>
- County Councils Network (CCN) coronavirus information pages: <https://www.countycouncilsnetwork.org.uk/coronavirus-information-for-local-authorities/>
- Local Government Association (LGA) councillor guidance: <https://www.local.gov.uk/covid-19-outbreak-councillor-guidance>

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