

Local context

Funfairs

In response to rising infection rates, both locally and nationally, and concern over the ability to keep the public safe at funfairs, Hampshire County Council is communicating with funfair owners and operators within the county. All funfair owners are currently receiving the same message from the County Council, seeking their support to voluntarily cancel planned events.

While local authorities have new powers to impose certain restrictions in the interest of health protection ([Health Protection \(Coronavirus, Restrictions\) \(England\) \(No.3\) Regulations 2020](#)), following careful consideration, the County Council has concluded that, at this stage, its concerns do not quite meet the threshold for issuing a direction to stop funfairs taking place.

Should funfairs go ahead, it is critical that the strictest public health Covid-secure measures are always adhered to. The County Council is closely monitoring all funfairs and remains in close communication with relevant District and Borough Council colleagues. District Environmental Health departments may contact, or visit, funfairs to assess the standard of Covid-19 mitigations both proposed and/or practiced. Concerns can then be escalated to the Police (as enforcement for face-coverings or gatherings remains with them), to the Health and Safety Executive (who have enforcement jurisdiction for safety at fun-fairs) and to Local Authority Public Health (Hampshire County Council) for further consideration.

Childcare and early years

Hampshire County Council is reminding parents and carers that around 1,800 nurseries, pre-schools and childminders are Covid-safe and open for business. The Executive Member for Education and Skills, Councillor Roz Chadd, visited a local day nursery to discover how they are coping, the changes they have implemented to follow guidelines and become Covid-safe, and to hear their advice for parents. The [video](#) is being promoted across social media platforms.

For more information about childcare and pre-schools in Hampshire please see [childcare and early years webpages](#) and for information about help paying for childcare, please visit the [childcare choices website](#).

Keep Hampshire Safe campaigns

The County Council continues to promote key public health messages, government guidance and new laws on social distancing, self-isolation, ‘the rule of six’, and when to get tested.

A new [campaign](#) was launched yesterday on ‘the rule of six’ – the short, informative [video](#) highlights what is, and what is not, now allowed. The campaign is currently live on Facebook, Twitter and Google.

Your group must be

six people or less



National context

Communities

Restrictions in the North East

The Government has [announced](#) that they have agreed to strengthen local measures in parts of the North East. Current guidance in several areas of the North East advises residents not to mix with people outside their household or bubble in indoor settings, including pubs and restaurants. This guidance will now be enforceable by law and subject to fines from today (30 September). Schools and workplaces are not affected.

Children and education

Lifetime Skills Guarantee

The Prime Minister, Boris Johnson, has [announced](#) the Lifetime Skills Guarantee – an expansion of post-18 education and training which aims to level up and prepare workers for the post-Covid economy.

Children's services

The [Adoption and Children \(Coronavirus\) \(Amendment\) \(No2\) Regulations 2020](#) have now come into force and are valid until 31 March 2021. Updated guidance for children's social care services has been [published](#) to reflect the amendments.

Universities

The Secretary of State for Education, Gavin Williamson, has [made](#) a statement to parliament on the return of students to universities and the actions that have been taken to keep them safe.

Disapplication notice - inspections

The Secretary of State for Education has [issued](#) a sixth notice about changes to state-funded school inspections requirements during the Covid-19 outbreak.

Modification notice: school registration

The Secretary of State has also [issued](#) the sixth notice to modify pupil registration requirements for temporary pupils during the Covid-19 outbreak.

Adults' social care and public health

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Strategy

The Government has [published](#) its strategy for preparing for a second wave of Covid-19, covering supply and logistics for the distribution of PPE. This strategy sets out how the Government is moving beyond the emergency response to stabilise and build resilience.

Flu immunisation programme

Public Health England has [published](#) new guidance on the national flu immunisation programme and the delivery of the 2020 to 20201 programme. This will be the largest national flu immunisation programme to date offering 30 million people a vaccine.

Technology in care homes

NHSX is providing up to 11,000 tablet devices for care homes to improve access to healthcare services for care home residents. Each device will include a 12-month support package and, for care homes without full access to WiFi, a data-enabled SIM card.

Economy and business

Working safely

The Government has [updated](#) the advice on making certain workplaces Covid-secure. The updates apply to: heritage locations, hotels and other guest accommodation, performing arts and the visitor economy.

National Covid-19 data

As of 4pm on 30 September, the total number of lab-confirmed cases was **453, 264**. The daily number of lab-confirmed cases was **7,108**. The total number of Covid-19 associated deaths within 28 days of a positive test was **42,143**, with **71** 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>

Deborah Harkin
Assistant Chief Executive