

Today's email includes:

- a communications toolkit to support your encouragement of COVID-19 testing with secondary school and college students
- information on Ofsted inspections during the 12-15 vaccine rollout in secondary schools

Communications toolkit to support your encouragement of COVID-19 testing with secondary school and college students

We have worked with school leaders and further education providers to identify some strategies that have been successfully used to increase participation in testing. These are fully outlined in a new toolkit '[how to encourage pupils and students to test regularly](#)' which we shared with you on Tuesday.

We have now [uploaded a template letter](#) to the toolkit for you to send out to your parent networks. The letter is designed to encourage parents and carers to support their children with regular testing.

[Reporting test results](#) is just as important as taking the test, as this allows us to understand the virus and take additional action when needed. Please remind staff and students to report their result on [NHS Test and Trace](#).

Information on Ofsted inspections during the 12-15 vaccine rollout in secondary schools

We have confirmed with Ofsted that, in order to support the 12-15 vaccine rollout in schools, any school that has been notified of an Ofsted inspection at the same time as administering the vaccine can request a deferral. The vaccine rollout should take priority.

The information below has not changed since our last update

Department for Education COVID-19 helpline

The [Department for Education COVID-19 helpline](#) and the PHE Advice Service (option 1) is available to answer any questions you have about COVID-19 relating to education settings and children's social care.

Department for Education guidance

Our guidance to support education providers, local authorities and parents during the COVID-19 pandemic can be accessed using the links below:

- [Guidance for early years and childcare providers](#)
- [Guidance for schools](#)
- [Guidance for further and higher education providers](#)
- [Guidance for local authority children's services](#)
- [Guidance for special schools and other specialist settings](#)

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You will continue to receive this daily email if you have supplied your contact information as part of your formal Department for Education establishment record (for example, in get information about schools) or you are registered as a team leader in the Test and Trace service.

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