Date: 6th August 2021

Dear Care and Community Support Provider,

During the past 16 months we have shared with you national or local guidance or updates to support the response to the COVID 19 pandemic, as we become aware of them.

Please find attached all the latest testing regimes in Adult Social Care settings, which will hopefully be of some use to you.

Also, below, are some links for information and guidance.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Link** |
| Adult day care centre testing guidance | [Coronavirus (COVID-19) testing for adult day care centre workers - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-testing-for-adult-day-care-centre-workers) |
| Care HomeCOVID-19Testing Guidance | [Care home COVID-19 testing guidance for testing of staff and residents (publishing.service.gov.uk)](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/969277/Care_Home_Testing_Guidance_England_v12-03.pdf) |
| Care home testing guidance  | [Coronavirus (COVID-19) testing in adult care homes - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-testing-in-adult-care-homes) |
| Extra care and supported living | [Testing service for extra care and supported living settings - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-testing-service-for-extra-care-and-supported-living-settings/testing-service-for-extra-care-and-supported-living-settings) |
| Homecare testing guidance | [A testing service for homecare workers in England - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-testing-for-homecare-workers/a-testing-service-for-homecare-workers-in-england) |
| Hospices | <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-testing-for-hospices> |
| Personal Assistants testing | <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-testing-for-personal-assistants> |
| Independent Health Provider | <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/independent-health-providers-accessing-lateral-flow-tests/a-testing-service-for-independent-health-providers-in-england> |
| Ordering test kits | [Apply for coronavirus test kits - GOV.UK (test-for-coronavirus.service.gov.uk)](https://request-testing.test-for-coronavirus.service.gov.uk/) |
| Booking a test kit collection | <https://test-kit-collection.test-for-coronavirus.service.gov.uk>  |
| Management of staff and exposed residents | <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-management-of-exposed-healthcare-workers-and-patients-in-hospital-settings/covid-19-management-of-exposed-healthcare-workers-and-patients-in-hospital-settings> |

Information for Care Homes

Last week we wrote to you to inform you that ADASS had confirmed that the vaccinations compulsory period has now started for Care Home Staff (and volunteers working in a care home), unless exempt. Government guidance was published on the 4th August (with an update on the 5th August) which provides more information about these regulations which will come into force on Thursday 11th November.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/vaccination-of-people-working-or-deployed-in-care-homes-operational-guidance>

As a reminder, for those beginning their vaccination journey, they must have their first dose by Thursday 16th September to allow the eight-week gap between doses and ensure they are fully vaccinated by Thursday 11 November.

Book online or call 119 and book or manage your coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccination - NHS ([www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk))

As always, we want to thank you for everything you are doing to continue to keep our vulnerable residents safe and well. Please continue to follow all Infection Control and visiting guidance. Please contact the Community Infection Control Team on 0151 295 3036 for advice and guidance.

From us, all the Health and Care partners and Councillor Paul Cummins, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, we would like to thank you and your staff once again for all your hard work and everything you are doing at this time.

Yours sincerely



Deborah Butcher

Executive Director for Adult Social Care and Health



Fiona Taylor

Chief Officer, NHS South Sefton and NHS Southport and Formby CCGs