



Briefing Note 42 - COVID-19 Guidance

As at 09:00 Wednesday 29th April 2020

A. Headline announcements on Tuesday 28th April 2020

Item		Source
A1	Anyone in England with coronavirus symptoms who either has to leave home to go to work or is aged 65 and over is now able to get tested (press release).	https://www.gov.uk/government/news/urther-expansion-of-access-to-coronavirus-testing-helps-protect-the-most-vulnerable
A2	Attendance data for schools and early years settings up to 24 th April 2020.	https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/881662/COVID19_attendance_in_education_settings_240420.pdf
A3	Standard operating procedure (SOP) on how to run a medicines re-use scheme in a care home or hospice.	https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/881838/medicines-reuse-in-care-homes.pdf
A4	Re-use of medicines in a care home or hospice: supporting information and templates associated with SOP at A3.	https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-reuse-of-medicines-in-a-care-home-or-hospice
A5	HM Treasury and HMRC set out new timelines for tax policy consultations and other work (press release).	https://www.gov.uk/government/news/covid-19-update-on-tax-policy-documents
A6	Government confirms £1.6 billion additional funding boost for councils in England (press release).	https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-confirms-allocations-of-1-6-billion-funding-boost-for-councils

B. Data Sources

Sources of daily rolling data		
B1	Presentation slides and datasets used to support the ministerial media briefing on Tuesday 28 th April 2020.	https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/slides-and-datasets-to-accompany-coronavirus-press-conference-28-april-2020
B2	UK statistics: 21,678 dead (+586) 161,145 tested positive (+3,996)	https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public
B3	UK government COVID-19 data tracker	https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk/
B4	Office for National Statistics (ONS): Analysis of COVID-19 data and its effect on the UK economy and society	https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/conditionsanddiseases



C. Commentary

A one-minute silence took place at 11am on International Workers' Memorial Day. It allowed the nation to pay respect to those whose work involves caring, saving lives, and keeping key services running and the rest of the country safe, while showing support for families who have lost a loved one. The Government backed initiative was organised by the Royal College of Nursing, the Royal College of Midwives and the trade union Unison.

The 5pm daily ministerial briefing was led by Health Secretary, Matt Hancock. The two key issues that emerged were increased testing and the reporting of deaths taking place in care homes.

With effect from today (Wednesday 29th April), the following arrangements will apply:

- Everyone in England aged 65 and over with COVID-19 symptoms can now get tested, along with symptomatic members of their household;
- Symptomatic workers who are unable to work from home are now eligible for testing;
- Testing for all asymptomatic NHS and social care staff and care home residents will take place.

The Health Secretary gave details of how capacity for daily testing (now standing at 73,400) was continuing to rapidly increase and this is to be matched by increased access to testing through a range of measures. The combination of additional mobile testing, extra drive-through testing sites, home testing and hospital testing was said to be 'on track' to meet the government's testing target of 100,000 at the end of this month – which is tomorrow.

Deaths in care homes continue to be a matter of concern and the numbers of provisional deaths registered in England and Wales recorded by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) indicate significant numbers of deaths in care homes and in the community. ONS data is based on the date a death is registered rather than the date it occurred. There is a time lag between the dates when deaths are reported in hospital for the purposes of the government's daily COVID-19 briefings and when the data is published by the ONS.

The Health Secretary announced that with effect from Wednesday 29th April the government will be publishing the numbers of deaths in care homes and in the community in addition to the deaths occurring in hospital. This will provide a more complete picture of daily COVID-19 deaths.

ONS statistical bulletins and related information are available via the weblink at B4 on page 1 of this briefing note.

Details of online resources and government guidance previously issued are shown in the Annex to this briefing note.



Annex

RESOURCES: UK government guidance and related advice

Document	
R1	<p>Glossary of terms used in government guidance</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-infection-prevention-and-control/glossary-of-terms</p>
R2	<p>Coronavirus: action plan – A guide to what you can expect across the UK</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/869827/Coronavirus_action_plan_-_a_guide_to_what_you_can_expect_across_the_UK.pdf</p>
R3	<p>World Health Organisation</p> <p>https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019</p>
R4	<p>NHS health advice for everyone</p> <p>https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/</p>
R5	<p>Mental health helplines</p> <p>https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/stress-anxiety-depression/mental-health-helplines/</p>
R6	<p>Essential travel guidance</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/news/covid-19-essential-travel-guidance</p>
R7	<p>Guidance on social distancing for everyone in the UK and for vulnerable people</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-social-distancing-and-for-vulnerable-people/</p>
R8	<p>Collection of guidance for schools and other educational settings</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-schools-and-other-educational-settings</p>
R9	<p>Guidance for schools and local authorities on maintaining educational provision</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/</p>
R10	<p>Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies (SAGE): COVID-19 guidance</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/groups/scientific-advisory-group-for-emergencies-sage-coronavirus-covid-19-response</p>
R11	<p>Guidance for employees, employers and businesses</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-employers-and-businesses-about-covid-19</p>
R12	<p>Measures to protect people at higher risk from Coronavirus</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19/</p>



R13	Guidance on home care provision https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-residential-care-supported-living-and-home-care-guidance/covid-19-guidance-on-home-care-provision
R14	Guidance on vulnerable children and young people https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-vulnerable-children-and-young-people/
R15	Guidance on temporary closure of schools in England https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-school-closures/guidance-for-schools-about-temporarily-closing
R16	Stay at home guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance
R17	Guidance for parents and carers - supporting children & young people's mental health https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-supporting-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-and-wellbeing/
R18	Coronavirus Act 2020 http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2020/7/pdfs/ukpga_20200007_en.pdf
R19	Guidance on cyber security and home working https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/guidance/home-working
R20	Compliance advice for businesses and other venues directed to close https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/business-and-other-venues-subject-to-further-social-distancing-measures/s
R21	Medicines & Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) : Collection of Guidance https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/mhra-guidance-on-coronavirus-covid-19
R22	Easy-read guide on protecting extremely vulnerable people – also known as 'shielding' https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/875126/Easy_read_guidance_on_shielding_March_2020.pdf
R23	Guidance for UK businesses trading internationally https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-uk-businesses/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-uk-businesses-trading-internationally
R24	How to help safely: guidance https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-how-to-help-safely--2/coronavirus-how-to-help-safely
R25	How to help safely: easy-read guide https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/879411/how-to-help-safely-easy-read-lo-res_v3.pdf
R26	Collection of guidance for healthcare professionals and others https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/wuhan-novel-coronavirus



R27	<p>Guidance for closing certain businesses – as at 27 March 2020</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/876535/270320_Revised_Guidance.pdf</p>
R28	<p>Guidance for local authorities for controlling fraud during COVID-19 emergency</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/875844/Fraud-Control-in-Emergency-Management-COVID-19-UK-Government-Guidance.pdf</p>
R29	<p>Financial help for the self-employed</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/news/chancellor-gives-support-to-millions-of-self-employed-individuals</p>
R30	<p>How to check if you are covered under the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/guidance/check-if-you-could-be-covered-by-the-coronavirus-job-retention-scheme</p>
R31	<p>How employers can claim wages through the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/guidance/claim-for-wage-costs-through-the-coronavirus-job-retention-scheme</p>
R32	<p>Interim safeguarding guidance for schools, colleges and other premises in England</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-safeguarding-in-schools-colleges-and-other-providers/</p>
R33	<p>Non-statutory renting guidance for landlords, tenants and local authorities</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-and-renting-guidance-for-landlords-tenants-and-local-authorities?</p>
R34	<p>Online support and practical guidance for those suffering with mental health issues</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-for-the-public-on-mental-health-and-wellbeing/</p>
R35	<p>Small Business Grant Fund & Retail, Hospitality and Leisure Grant Fund – Version 3</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/876893/small-business-grant-fund-retail-guidance-vers-3.pdf</p>
R36	<p>Easy-read guide: looking after your feelings and body</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/876989/Easy_read_looking_after_your_feelings_and_body.pdf</p>
R37	<p>Easy-read guide: staying at home</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/876715/</p>
R38	<p>Easy-read guide: keeping away from other people</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/876699/COVID-19_Keeping_away_from_other_people_20200328.pdf</p>



R39	Guidance for parents & carers on looking after mental health & wellbeing of children https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-supporting-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-and-wellbeing/
R40	Construction site operating procedures – version 3 (updated 14 April 2020) https://www.constructionleadershipcouncil.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Site-Operating-Procedures-Version-3.pdf
R41	Changes to the Care Act 2014 allowing local authorities to prioritise care and support https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-changes-to-the-care-act-2014/care-act-easements-guidance-for-local-authorities
R42	Guidance for care of the deceased – for health professionals and other organisations https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-for-care-of-the-deceased/
R43	Guidance for local authorities for implementing grant funds – version 3 https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/877286/small-business-grant-fund-and-retail-guidance-v3.pdf
R44	Collection of guidance for schools and other educational settings https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-schools-and-other-educational-settings
R45	Business Support – Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) https://www.businesssupport.gov.uk/faqs/
R46	Guidance for businesses on grant funding schemes: Version 2 – 3rd April 2020 https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/878082/pdf
B47	Expanded retail discount 2020-2021: guidance to local authorities at 2 April 2020 https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/877758/Expanded_Retail_Discount_Guidance_02.04.20.pdf
R48	Grant funding allocations by local authority in England https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-business-support-grant-funding?
R49	Admission and care of people in care homes: Version 1 -2nd April 2020 https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/877797/covid-19-care-homes-guidance.pdf
R50	Guidance on maintaining further education https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-further-education-provision/
R51	Guidance for head teachers on awarding qualifications in summer 2020 https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/878848/Summer_2020_grades_for_GCSE_AS_A_level_EPQ_AEA_in_maths_-_guidance_for_heads_of_centres.pdf



R52	Guidance for local authorities to support and protect vulnerable children https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-childrens-social-care-services/
R53	Coronavirus Status Checker - Online Survey https://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus-status-checker
R54	Guidance for teachers, students, parents and carers on educational grades in 2020 https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/878869/Summer_2020_grades_for_GCSE_AS_A_level_EPQ_AEA_in_maths_-_guidance_for_teachers_students_parents_UPDATED_09APR2020.pdf
R55	Summer 2020 results for vocational, technical and other qualifications https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/879019/Summer_2020_results_for_vocational_technical_and_other_qualifications.pdf
R56	Free school meals guidance https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-free-school-meals-guidance/
R57	Government plans for scaling up testing programmes – issued 3rd April 2020 https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/878121/coronavirus-covid-19-testing-strategy.pdf
R58	Management of exposed healthcare workers and patients in hospitals https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-management-of-exposed-healthcare-workers-and-patients-in-hospital-settings/
R59	Call for evidence by parliamentary Women & Equalities Committee: ends 30 April https://committees.parliament.uk/work/227/coronavirus-and-the-impact-on-people-with-protected-characteristics/
R60	Safety guidance for towpaths and waterways from the Canal and River Trust https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/enjoy-the-waterways/safety-on-our-waterways/coronavirus
R61	Postponement of elections https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/878332/Coronavirus_COVID-19_-_letter_to_councils_about_local_authority_meetings_and_postponement_of_elections.pdf
R62	Procurement policy guidance to public bodies on payment of their suppliers https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/procurement-policy-note-0220-supplier-relief-due-to-covid-19
R63	Guidance for apprentices, employers, training providers and assessors https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-apprenticeship-programme-response/



R64	Recruitment for Healthcare Support Workers at London NHS Nightingale Hospital https://www.nhsprofessionals.nhs.uk/en/Nightingale/Nightingale/Nightingale-London
R65	Funding to support schools with exceptional costs https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-financial-support-for-schools/
R66	Guidance to local authorities in England on prioritising waste collections https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-advice-to-local-authorities-on-prioritising-waste-collections/
R67	Guidance for those who provide unpaid care to family and friends https://www.gov.uk/government/
R68	Prime Minister's letter to the nation https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/876876/CCS155_CCS0320349160-003_PM_letter_to_nation_on_coronavirus_Accessible.pdf
R69	Coronavirus public information leaflet accompanying Prime Minister's letter https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/877678/coronavirus-leaflet.pdf
R70	Coronavirus easy-read public information leaflet https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/879412/coronavirus-leaflet-easy-read.pdf
R71	Increase to Working Tax Credits with effect from 6th April 2020 https://www.gov.uk/government/news/increase-to-working-tax-credits-what-this-means
R72	Hospital discharge service requirements https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/874213/COVID-19_hospital_discharge_service_requirements.pdf
R73	Infection control stepdown precautions when discharging from hospital to home https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-for-stepdown-of-infection-control-precautions-within-hospitals-and-discharging-covid-19-patients-from-hospital-to-home-settings/
R74	Guidance for health and social care staff caring for people lacking mental capacity https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/878910/Emergency_MCA_DoLS_Guidance_COVID19.pdf
R75	Guidance for organisations with laboratory testing capability https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/879087/Guidance_for_Laboratories_offering_support_for_COVID-19_testing_for_publication_2_.pdf
R76	UK Government COVID-19 data tracker https://obr.uk/coronavirus-reference-scenario/



R77	Coronavirus Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Hub https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/coronavirus-covid-19-personal-protective-equipment-ppe
R78	Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Plan https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/879117/Coronavirus_COVID-19_-_personal_protective_equipment_PPE_plan.pdf
R79	Support for victims of domestic abuse announced by Home Secretary 11th April 2020 https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/home-secretary-outlines-support-for-domestic-abuse-victims
R80	'Silent Solution' system: contacting the police by mobile phone if you cannot speak https://www.policeconduct.gov.uk/sites/default/files/Documents/research-learning/Silent_solution_guide.pdf
R81	UK financial assistance to help reduce mass infections in developing countries https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-leads-global-fight-to-prevent-second-wave-of-coronavirus
R82	Adult Social Care Action Plan (published 15th April 2020) https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/879639/covid-19-adult-social-care-action-plan.pdf
R83	Ofqual consultation for 2020 exam grading: online response closes 29th April 2020 https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/exceptional-arrangements-for-exam-grading-and-assessment-in-2020
R84	Government data sources and methodology for gathering transport use data https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-transport-data-methodology-note/
R85	Guidance for local authorities on implementing the £500 million hardship fund https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/879764/32020
R86	Guidance for consumers on how to maintain food hygiene https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-for-consumers-on-coronavirus-covid-19-and-food/
R87	Guidance on COVID-19 testing for frontline workers who are self-isolating https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-getting-tested
R88	Step-by-step guidance for employers: how to claim under Job Retention Scheme https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/880092/Coronavirus_Job_Retention_Scheme_step_by_step_guide_for_employers.pdf
R89	Launch of Oak National Academy – an online teaching resource for teachers https://www.thenational.academy/



R90	BBC Bitesize: Online support for students in primary and secondary schools https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize
R91	Directions to councils in England to allow family members to attend funerals https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/880093/Letter_from_Minister_Simon_Clarke.pdf
R92	Statutory guidance to local authorities in England on local death management https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/880047/Schedule_28_local_death_management_guidance.pdf
R93	Guidance for managing a funeral during the pandemic https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-for-managing-a-funeral-during-the-coronavirus-pandemic/
R94	Information leaflet for the bereaved https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/880807/Bereavement-Leaflet-digital.pdf
R95	Guidance for special schools managing children with complex needs (SEND) https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-send-risk-assessment-guidance/
R96	Financial support for businesses: Headline terms for 'Future Fund' https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/880119/Convertible_Loan_Key_Terms_-_Final_Version_.pdf
R97	Online support tool for employers and the self-employed https://www.gov.uk/business-coronavirus-support-finder
R98	Grant payments made to businesses by local authority area as at 27th April 2020 https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/881566/Coronavirus_local_authority_grant_funding_200427.csv/preview
R99	PPE export controls on UK companies trading internationally https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-uk-businesses/
R100	Collection of guidance for those involved in managing deaths https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-for-those-involved-in-managing-covid-19-deaths/
R101	Guidance from the DVSA to driver and rider trainers in England, Scotland and Wales https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-letter-from-dvsa-chief-executive-to-driver-and-rider-trainers
R102	Testing arrangements for essential workers in England with COVID-19 symptoms https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-getting-tested#arrange-a-test



R103	Booking tests: User guide for essential workers in England with COVID-19 symptoms https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/881043/covid-19-testing-self-referral-portal-user-guide.pdf
R104	Directions given to the NHS to disclose cyber security information to GCHQ https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/879049/Security_of_NHS_and_Public_Health_Services_Digital_Systems_Coronavirus_Directions_2020.pdf
R105	Ofqual consultation on vocational and technical qualifications: closes 8th May 2020 https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/exceptional-arrangements-for-assessment-and-grading-in-2020
R106	Online portal for people who want to register to donate plasma for NHS trial https://www.nhsbt.nhs.uk/how-you-can-help/convalescent-plasma-clinical-trial/
R107	Mobile testing units operated by the Armed Forces to testing frontline workers https://www.gov.uk/government/news/mobile-coronavirus-testing-units-to-target-frontline-workers
R108	Thinkuknow education programme to protect children when using devices online https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/
R109	How to ask a question at the government's daily media conference https://www.gov.uk/ask
R110	Life assurance scheme for health and care workers who die during pandemic https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-guarantee-on-death-in-service-benefits-for-frontline-health-and-care-staff-during-pandemic
R111	Bounce Back Loan scheme to be launched on 4th May 2020 https://www.gov.uk/guidance/apply-for-a-coronavirus-bounce-back-loan