

(COVID) Community Champions

Short Briefing – New COVID-19 Guidance

w/c 4 April 2022



COVID-19 Data – Local and National

- From 15 March 2022, [Surrey's COVID-19 Intelligence Summary](#) is published once a week on a Tuesday, with a focus on Modelled Cases (via the ONS Infection Survey), hospitalisations, deaths and vaccinations

From 5 April 2022, the government will no longer provide free universal symptomatic and asymptomatic testing for the general public in England. As recorded cases are therefore no longer a reliable measure of COVID-19 cases in the community, the publication of Surrey's COVID-19 Infographic has ceased, with the final publication on 29 March 2022

- [National data](#) on testing, cases, vaccine, deaths is updated daily, also available in easy-read version

COVID-19 Cases and Deaths

In the UK, up to 4 April:

- 455,931 people tested positive in last 7 days - a decrease of 22.4%
- 1,109 deaths within 28 days of a positive test - an increase of 11.1% (n= 111) from previous 7 days

COVID-19 Vaccinations

In UK, up to 3 April:

- First dose: 52,826,860 (91.9% of population aged 12+)
- Second dose: 49,478,287 (86% of population aged 12+)
- Booster / Third doses: 38,866,665 (67.6% of population 12+)

Key Message: New guidance sets out how to live safely with COVID-19

- On 1 April, the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) published [new and updated guidance](#) to support the next stage of the COVID-19 pandemic. As set out in the government's [Living with COVID-19 plan](#), the focus of this new phase is on protecting those who are most at risk from the virus
- New guidance includes public health advice for [people with symptoms of respiratory infections including COVID-19](#) and advice for everyone on [safer behaviours](#) that can help to reduce the spread of infections and protect those around them
- Safer behaviours include:
 - getting vaccinated
 - ventilating indoor spaces
 - wearing a face covering or mask in certain situations
 - keeping up good hand and respiratory hygiene
- People with symptoms of a respiratory infection, such as COVID-19, and who have a high temperature or do not feel well, should try to **stay at home and avoid contact with others**
- People who have a positive COVID-19 test result should try to stay at home and **avoid contact with other people for 5 days following the day of their positive result**. It is particularly important that a person with symptoms of a respiratory infection, such as COVID-19, avoid close contact with people whose immune system means that they are at higher risk of serious illness
- The guidance also sets out actions for **reducing the risks of spreading infection within the home**, where someone has tested positive or has symptoms of infection, and provides advice for those living in the home who will be close contacts
- From 1 April, provision of **free asymptomatic and symptomatic COVID-19 tests for the general public ended**. There will continue to be some [symptomatic testing available](#) for certain high-risk groups and settings



Share: New COVID-19 guidance provides important public health advice for [people with symptoms of respiratory infections including COVID-19](#) and advice for everyone on [safer behaviours](#) that can help to reduce the spread of infections and protect those around them