



Briefing Note 17 - COVID-19 Guidance

As at 09:00 Saturday 4th April 2020

1. **Headline developments announced on Friday 3rd April 2020**

Item	Source
A	Guidance on maintaining education and skills training provision for further education providers https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-further-education-provision/
B	World's largest randomised trial of potential COVID-19 treatments rolled out across the UK- press release https://www.gov.uk/government/news/worlds-largest-trial-of-potential-coronavirus-treatments-rolled-out-across-the-uk
C	Admission and care of people in care homes: How to protect care home residents and staff. (Version 1, 2 April 2020) https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/877797/covid-19-care-homes-guidance.pdf
D	Link to slides and data sets used to support Ministerial Press Conference at 5.30 pm, 2 nd April 2020 https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/slides-and-datasets-to-accompany-coronavirus-press-conference-3-april-2020
E	Guidance for head teachers and heads of centres on how educational qualifications will be graded in England during summer 2020 https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/877930/Summer_2020_grades_for_GCSE_AS_A_level_EPQ_AEA_in_maths_-_guidance_for_heads_of_centres.pdf
F	Guidance for teachers, students, parents and carers on how educational qualifications will be graded in England during summer 2020 https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/877842/Summer_2020_grades_for_GCSE_AS_A_level_EPQ_AEA_in_maths_-_guidance_for_teachers_students_parents.pdf
G	Letter from Ofqual to students explaining how educational qualification grades will be awarded in England in summer 2020 https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/877830/Letter_to_students_-_Summer_2020_grading.pdf
H	Funding announced to keep England's buses running during the pandemic https://www.gov.uk/government/news/almost-400-million-to-keep-englands-buses-running?
I	'Tell us what you can produce and supply' – online forms for organisations that can manufacture and supply testing consumables, equipment and laboratory PPE https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-tell-us-you-can-produce-testing-kits-and-services

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J	Call for innovation: UK registered businesses can apply for a project grant of up to £50,000 to respond to new and urgent needs in UK and global communities. Competition opened 3 April 2020	https://apply-for-innovation-funding.service.gov.uk/competition/583/overview
K	A glossary of terms used in official guidance on the coronavirus pandemic	https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-infection-prevention-and-control/glossary-of-terms
L	UK statistics: 3,605 dead (+684) 38,168 tested positive (+4,450)	https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public
M	UK daily interactive statistical dashboard published by Public Health England showing UK cases and deaths	https://www.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/ae5dda8f86814ae99dde905d2a9070ae

2. Key Sources of Government Advice

Document	
A	Coronavirus: action plan – A guide to what you can expect across the UK 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
B	World Health Organisation advice https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019
C	NHS health advice https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/
D	Mental health helplines https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/stress-anxiety-depression/mental-health-helplines/
E	Essential travel guidance https://www.gov.uk/government/news/covid-19-essential-travel-guidance
F	Guidance on social distancing for everyone in the UK and for vulnerable people https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-social-distancing-and-for-vulnerable-people/guidance-on-social-distancing-for-everyone-in-the-uk-and-protecting-older-people-and-vulnerable-adults
G	Guidance for schools and other educational settings https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-schools-and-other-educational-settings
H	Guidance for schools and local authorities on maintaining educational provision https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision

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I	Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies (SAGE): COVID-19 guidance https://www.gov.uk/government/groups/scientific-advisory-group-for-emergencies-sage-coronavirus-covid-19-response
J	Guidance for employees, employers and businesses https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-employers-and-businesses-about-covid-19
K	Measures to protect people at higher risk from Coronavirus https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19
L	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
M	Guidance on vulnerable children and young people https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-vulnerable-children-and-young-people/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-vulnerable-children-and-young-people
N	Guidance for parents and carers on 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/guidance-for-parents-and-carers-on-supporting-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-and-wellbeing-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak
O	Guidance on temporary closure of schools in England https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-school-closures/guidance-for-schools-about-temporarily-closing
P	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/businesses-and-other-venues-subject-to-further-social-distancing-measures
Q	Emergency measures for railways to ensure continuity of operations and ticket refunds https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-ensures-ticket-refunds-and-protects-services-for-passengers-with-rail-emergency-measures
R	Stay at home guidance https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance
S	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
T	Coronavirus Act 2020 http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2020/7/pdfs/ukpga_20200007_en.pdf

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U	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
V	Guidance on cyber security and home working https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/guidance/home-working
W	Guidance for local authorities for controlling fraud during COVID-19 emergency 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
X	Guidance for closing certain businesses – as at 27 March 2020 https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/876535/270320_Revised_Guidance.pdf
Y	Guidance on how to help safely https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-how-to-help-safely--2/coronavirus-how-to-help-safely
Z	Financial help for the self-employed https://www.gov.uk/government/news/chancellor-gives-support-to-millions-of-self-employed-individuals
A A	How to check if you're covered under the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme https://www.gov.uk/guidance/check-if-you-could-be-covered-by-the-coronavirus-job-retention-scheme
B B	How employers can claim wages through the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme https://www.gov.uk/guidance/claim-for-wage-costs-through-the-coronavirus-job-retention-scheme
C C	New interim safeguarding guidance for schools, colleges and other premises in England https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-safeguarding-in-schools-colleges-and-other-providers/coronavirus-covid-19-safeguarding-in-schools-colleges-and-other-providers
D D	Non-statutory renting guidance for landlords, tenants and local authorities in England https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-and-renting-guidance-for-landlords-tenants-and-local-authorities?
E E	Collection of healthcare guidance for healthcare workers and others https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/coronavirus-covid-19-list-of-guidance
F F	Online support and practical guidance for those suffering with mental health issues https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-for-the-public-on-mental-health-and-wellbeing/guidance-for-the-public-on-the-mental-health-and-wellbeing-aspects-of-coronavirus-covid-19

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G G	Small Business Grant Fund & Retail, Hospitality and Leisure Grant Fund – Version 3 https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/876893/small-business-grant-fund-retail-guidance-vers-3.pdf
H H	Easy-read guide: looking after your feelings and body https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/876989/Easy_read_looking_after_your_feelings_and_body.pdf
I I	Easy-read guide: staying at home https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/876715/Coronavirus_COVID-19_advice_on_staying_at_home_20200328.pdf
J J	Easy-read guide: keeping away from other people https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/876699/COVID-19_Keeping_away_from_other_people_20200328.pdf
K K	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/guidance-for-parents-and-carers-on-supporting-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-and-wellbeing-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak
L L	Construction site operating procedures – version 2 (updated 2 April 2020) http://www.constructionleadershipcouncil.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Site-Operating-Procedures-02-April-2020-v2.pdf
M M	Guidance for care of the deceased – for health professionals and other organisation https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-for-care-of-the-deceased/guidance-for-care-of-the-deceased-with-suspected-or-confirmed-coronavirus-covid-19
N N	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
O O	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
P P	Guidance for businesses on grant funding schemes: Version 2 – 3 April 2020 https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/878082/small-business-grant-and-retail-leisure-hospitality-grant-guidance-for-businesses-v2.pdf
Q Q	Guidance on childcare and early years closures https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures
R R	Business Support – Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) https://www.businesssupport.gov.uk/faqs/



S S	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
T T	Grant funding allocations by local authority in England https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-business-support-grant-funding?

3. Commentary

At the daily ministerial press briefing at 5 pm, an additional presentation slide was published giving details of UK mobility change showing the public response to social distancing measures as at 29 March. The data was provided by Google and indicated significant compliance with social distancing guidance. This was followed by an instruction that people must comply with government directions over this weekend when warm weather is expected across the UK.

The Secretary of State for Education published guidance on how educational qualification grades would be calculated in England in lieu of exam results in summer 2020, and issued a direction to Ofqual to put in place and standardise the arrangements across educational settings. Weblinks to the guidance are at 1E, 1F and 1G.

Local authorities in England have been given new powers to hold public meetings virtually by using video or telephone conferencing technology with effect from Saturday 4th April 2020.

'Tell us what you can produce and supply' - Online forms for organisations that can manufacture and supply testing consumables, equipment and laboratory personal protective equipment (PPE) have been published and are available through the weblink at 1I.

A call for innovation has been announced. UK registered businesses can apply for a project grant of up to £50,000 to respond to new and urgent needs in UK and global communities. Competition opened 3 April 2020 and closes on 17th April 2020. Information about what is needed and how to apply is via weblink at 1J.

A government-run business support website contains links to frequently asked questions (FAQs) and a weblink is at 2RR.