



Briefing Note 35 - COVID-19 Guidance

As at 09:00 Wednesday 22nd April 2020

A. Headline developments announced on Tuesday 21st April 2020

Item		Source
A1	The government's ventilator challenge: progress report	https://www.gov.uk/government/news/what-is-the-uk-government-ventilator-challenge
A2	Guidance collection for those involved in managing COVID-19 deaths	https://www.gov.uk/government/publication/s/guidance-for-those-involved-in-managing-covid-19-deaths/
A3	Summary of how many children and teachers attended educational settings between Monday 23 rd March and Friday 17 th April 2020	https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/880424/Coronavirus_COVID-19_attendance_in_education_and_early_years_settings_summary_of_returns.pdf
A4	Advice for people who buy care and support through a direct payment, as well as local authorities and others providing care and support	https://www.gov.uk/government/publication/s/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-people-receiving-direct-payments
A6	Presentation slides and datasets used to support the ministerial media briefing on Tuesday 21 st April 2020	https://www.gov.uk/government/publication/s/slides-and-datasets-to-accompany-coronavirus-press-conference-21-april-2020
A7	UK statistics: 17,337 dead (+828) 129,044 tested positive (+4,301)	https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public
A8	UK government COVID-19 data tracker	https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk/
A9	Office for National Statistics (ONS): data and analysis on COVID-19 in the UK and its effect on the economy and society	https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/conditionsanddiseases

B. Key sources of government advice

Document	
B1	Glossary of terms used in government guidance https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-infection-prevention-and-control/glossary-of-terms
B2	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



B3	World Health Organisation https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019
B4	NHS health advice for everyone https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/
B5	Mental health helplines https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/stress-anxiety-depression/mental-health-helplines/
B6	Essential travel guidance https://www.gov.uk/government/news/covid-19-essential-travel-guidance
B7	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/
B8	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
B9	Guidance for schools and local authorities on maintaining educational provision https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/
B10	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
B11	Guidance for employees, employers and businesses https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-employers-and-businesses-about-covid-19
B12	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/
B13	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
B14	Guidance on vulnerable children and young people https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-vulnerable-children-and-young-people/
B15	Guidance on temporary closure of schools in England https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-school-closures/guidance-for-schools-about-temporarily-closing
B16	Stay at home guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance



B17	<p>Guidance for parents and carers - supporting children & young people’s mental health</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-supporting-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-and-wellbeing/</p>
B18	<p>Coronavirus Act 2020</p> <p>http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2020/7/pdfs/ukpga_20200007_en.pdf</p>
B19	<p>Guidance on cyber security and home working</p> <p>https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/guidance/home-working</p>
B20	<p>Compliance advice for businesses and other venues directed to close</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/business-and-other-venues-subject-to-further-social-distancing-measures/s</p>
B21	<p>Medicines & Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) : Collection of Guidance</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/mhra-guidance-on-coronavirus-covid-19</p>
B22	<p>Easy-read guide on protecting extremely vulnerable people – also known as ‘shielding’</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/875126/Easy_read_guidance_on_shielding_March_2020.pdf</p>
B23	<p>Guidance for UK businesses trading internationally</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-uk-businesses/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-uk-businesses-trading-internationally</p>
B24	<p>Guidance on how to help safely</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-how-to-help-safely--2/coronavirus-how-to-help-safely</p>
B25	<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>
B26	<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>
B27	<p>Collection of guidance for healthcare professionals and others</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/coronavirus-covid-19-list-of-guidance</p>
B28	<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>
B29	<p>How to check if you’re 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>



B30	<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>
B31	<p>New 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>
B32	<p>Non-statutory renting guidance for landlords, tenants and local authorities in England</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-and-renting-guidance-for-landlords-tenants-and-local-authorities?</p>
B33	<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>
B34	<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>
B35	<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>
B36	<p>Easy-read guide: staying at home</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/876715/</p>
B37	<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>
B38	<p>Guidance for parents & carers on looking after mental health & wellbeing of children</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-supporting-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-and-wellbeing/</p>
B39	<p>Construction site operating procedures – version 3 (updated 14 April 2020)</p> <p>https://www.constructionleadershipcouncil.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Site-Operating-Procedures-Version-3.pdf</p>
B40	<p>Changes to the Care Act 2014 allowing local authorities to prioritise care and support</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-changes-to-the-care-act-2014/care-act-easements-guidance-for-local-authorities</p>
B41	<p>Guidance for care of the deceased – for health professionals and other organisations</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-for-care-of-the-deceased/</p>
B42	<p>Guidance for local authorities for implementing grant funds – version 3</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/877286/small-business-grant-fund-and-retail-guidance-v3.pdf</p>



B43	<p>Closure of schools and other educational settings: guidance for parents and carers</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/</p>
B44	<p>Guidance for businesses on grant funding schemes: Version 2 – 3rd April 2020</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/878082/pdf</p>
B45	<p>Business Support – Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)</p> <p>https://www.businesssupport.gov.uk/faqs/</p>
B46	<p>Expanded retail discount 2020-2021: guidance to local authorities at 2 April 2020</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/877758/Expanded_Retail_Discount_Guidance_02.04.20.pdf</p>
B47	<p>Grant funding allocations by local authority in England</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-business-support-grant-funding?</p>
B48	<p>Admission and care of people in care homes: Version 1 -2nd April 2020</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/877797/covid-19-care-homes-guidance.pdf</p>
B49	<p>Guidance on maintaining further education</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-further-education-provision/</p>
B50	<p>Guidance for head teachers on awarding qualifications in summer 2020</p> <p>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</p>
B51	<p>Guidance for local authorities to support and protect vulnerable children</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-childrens-social-care-services/</p>
B52	<p>Guidance for teachers, students, parents and carers on educational grades in 2020</p> <p>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</p>
B53	<p>Coronavirus Status Checker - Online Survey</p> <p>https://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus-status-checker</p>
B54	<p>Summer 2020 results for vocational, technical and other qualifications</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/879019/Summer_2020_results_for_vocational_technical_and_other_qualifications.pdf</p>
B55	<p>Free school meals guidance</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-free-school-meals-guidance/</p>



B56	<p>Government plans for scaling up testing programmes – issued 3rd April 2020</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/878121/coronavirus-covid-19-testing-strategy.pdf</p>
B57	<p>Management of exposed healthcare workers and patients in hospitals</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-management-of-exposed-healthcare-workers-and-patients-in-hospital-settings/</p>
B58	<p>Call for evidence by parliamentary Women & Equalities Committee: ends 30 April 2020</p> <p>https://committees.parliament.uk/work/227/coronavirus-and-the-impact-on-people-with-protected-characteristics/</p>
B59	<p>Safety guidance for towpaths and waterways from the Canal and River Trust</p> <p>https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/enjoy-the-waterways/safety-on-our-waterways/coronavirus</p>
B60	<p>Postponement of elections</p> <p>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</p>
B61	<p>Procurement policy guidance to public bodies on payment of their suppliers</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/procurement-policy-note-0220-supplier-relief-due-to-covid-19</p>
B62	<p>Guidance for apprentices, employers, training providers and assessors</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-apprenticeship-programme-response/</p>
B63	<p>Recruitment for Healthcare Support Workers at London NHS Nightingale Hospital</p> <p>https://www.nhsprofessionals.nhs.uk/en/Nightingale/Nightingale/Nightingale-London</p>
B64	<p>Funding to support schools with exceptional costs</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-financial-support-for-schools/</p>
B65	<p>Guidance to local authorities in England on prioritising waste collections</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-advice-to-local-authorities-on-prioritising-waste-collections/</p>
B66	<p>Guidance for those who provide unpaid care to family and friends</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/</p>
B67	<p>Prime Minister’s letter to the nation</p> <p>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</p>



B68	<p>Coronavirus public information leaflet accompanying Prime Minister’s letter</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/877678/coronavirus-leaflet.pdf</p>
B69	<p>Coronavirus easy-read public information leaflet</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/879412/coronavirus-leaflet-easy-read.pdf</p>
B70	<p>Increase to Working Tax Credits with effect from 6th April 2020</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/news/increase-to-working-tax-credits-what-this-means</p>
B71	<p>Hospital discharge service requirements</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/874213/COVID-19_hospital_discharge_service_requirements.pdf</p>
B72	<p>Infection control stepdown precautions when discharging from hospital to home</p> <p>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/</p>
B73	<p>Guidance for health and social care staff caring for people lacking mental capacity</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/878910/Emergency_MCA_DoLS_Guidance_COVID19.pdf</p>
B74	<p>Guidance for organisations with laboratory testing capability</p> <p>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</p>
B75	<p>Coronavirus Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Hub</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/coronavirus-covid-19-personal-protective-equipment-ppe</p>
B76	<p>Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Plan</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/879117/Coronavirus_COVID-19_-_personal_protective_equipment_PPE_plan.pdf</p>
B77	<p>Support for victims of domestic abuse announced by Home Secretary 11th April 2020</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/home-secretary-outlines-support-for-domestic-abuse-victims</p>
B78	<p>‘Silent Solution’ system: contacting the police by mobile phone if you can’t speak</p> <p>https://www.policeconduct.gov.uk/sites/default/files/Documents/research-learning/Silent_solution_guide.pdf</p>
B79	<p>UK financial assistance to help reduce mass infections in developing countries</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-leads-global-fight-to-prevent-second-wave-of-coronavirus</p>



B80	UK Government COVID-19 data tracker https://obr.uk/coronavirus-reference-scenario/
B81	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
B82	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
B83	Government data sources and methodology for gathering transport use data https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-transport-data-methodology-note/
B84	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
B85	Guidance for consumers on how to maintain food hygiene https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-for-consumers-on-coronavirus-covid-19-and-food/
B86	Guidance on COVID-19 testing for frontline workers who are self-isolating https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-getting-tested
B87	Step-by-step guidance for employers about 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
B88	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
B89	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
B90	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/
B91	Guidance for special schools managing children with complex needs (SEND) https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-send-risk-assessment-guidance/
B92	Launch of Oak National Academy – an online teaching resource for teachers https://www.thenational.academy/



B93	BBC Bitesize: Online support for students in primary and secondary schools https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize
B94	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
B95	Online support tool for employers and the self-employed https://www.gov.uk/business-coronavirus-support-finder
B96	Grant payments made to businesses by local authority area as at 20th April 2020 https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/880286/200420_local_authority_grant_payments.csv/preview

C. Commentary

The daily ministerial media briefing at 5pm was led by the Health Secretary, Matt Hancock. He explained that the social distancing restrictions were working, and this has led to the UK reaching the highest capacity of 2,963 critical care beds in the NHS since the measures were introduced. He continued that the measures must continue until the government is satisfied that the 'five tests' have been met, namely:

1. Making sure the NHS can cope
2. A sustained and consistent fall in the daily death rate;
3. Rate of infection decreases to manageable levels;
4. Ensuring supply of tests and PPE can meet future demand; and
5. Confidence that any adjustments do not risk a second wave of infections.

The Health Secretary described significant investment being made in the urgent and rapid research arrangements to develop a vaccine and said the government was 'throwing everything at it'. He announced additional funding for two leading UK vaccine development projects at Imperial College, London and the University of Oxford and pointed out that the UK was at the forefront of the global effort. He said the first human trials for vaccines will begin in the UK on Thursday 22nd April. This is being led by the University of Oxford team.

The Imperial College team hopes to start human trials in June. They have not yet begun screening participants for the study, but members of the public can register their interest by signing up to the [NIHR's Imperial CRF's Healthy Volunteers database](#).