

Coronavirus: Weekly update from Camden Council

For the latest information and support from Camden Council and its partners, including updates to services:

- Visit camden.gov.uk/coronavirus
- Check the rolling newsfeed at camden.gov.uk/coronavirusnews
- Follow Twitter [@CamdenCouncil](https://twitter.com/CamdenCouncil)
- Speak to someone at the Council directly by calling **020 7974 4444 (option 9)**

 **SIGN UP** to receive the Council's e-newsletter at camden.gov.uk/coronavirus-updates

NHS COVID-19 app

The NHS COVID-19 app launches today (Thursday 24 September) to support Test and Trace. The app will help to prevent the spread of coronavirus by:

1. Enabling people to scan a QR code to 'check-in' to a venue – e.g. a shop, voluntary organisation or place of worship.
2. Helping to identify people who've been in close recent contact with someone who's then tested positive for coronavirus – including people they may not personally know.

Downloading the app is advised but not mandatory. To find out more and download the app, visit covid19.nhs.uk

COVID-19 app guidance for businesses

All local businesses and venues – including shops, voluntary organisations and places of worship – are encouraged to download and display their unique QR code poster for recording visitors' contact details.

It is a legal requirement for businesses and venues in these sectors to display a QR code poster:

- **Hospitality** e.g. restaurants, hotels and bars
- **Leisure and tourism** e.g. gyms, museums and cinemas
- **Close contact services** e.g. hairdressers and beauty salons
- **Local authority venues** e.g. libraries and children's centres.

These businesses and venues will also need to continue offering a manual option for recording visitors' contact details for people without the app. If your business or venue is in one of these sectors and you fail to display a poster and offer a manual option to record customer details, you could be fined.

Creating a QR code poster is free and easy – visit gov.uk/create-coronavirus-qr-poster



With coronavirus cases rising across London, and as new measures are put in place to slow the spread, I want to reassure Camden residents that we are here to support you.

I know you've all had to make personal sacrifices over the past six months to keep each other safe – and it's vital that we all continue to follow public health advice. This includes self-isolating and getting tested if you develop symptoms. If you struggle to access a test, please keep trying. Regardless of whether you can access a test, you must self-isolate – this means not leaving your home at all, except to get a test.

If you need any help with self-isolating – whether that's accessing food, support with your work needs including finances, or help with your children's education and caring responsibilities – please call **020 7974 4444 (option 9)** or visit camden.gov.uk/coronavirus. We're also putting additional support in place to protect our most vulnerable residents.

Councillor Georgia Gould, Leader of Camden Council

New Government guidance

The Government has announced new restrictions to curb the rise in coronavirus cases across the country. These include:

- People should work from home wherever possible.
- From today (Thursday 24 September), restaurants, pubs and bars must close at 10pm – they will also be restricted to table service only.
- **Face coverings:** By law, you must now wear a face covering if you are travelling in a taxi or visiting a restaurant, pub or bar, except when seated at a table to eat or drink. Staff in the retail, leisure and hospitality industries must wear face coverings where they are likely to come in close contact with the public.
- **Weddings:** The maximum number of guests will be reduced from 30 to 15 from Monday (28 September).
- **Public sporting events:** Plans to allow fans to return are paused.
- **'Rule of six':** As of Monday (28 September), socialising in a group of no more than 6 also applies to indoor team sports for over 18s.

For more information, visit gov.uk/coronavirus

Crowdfunder launched to end digital divide in schools

Camden Learning, a partnership between local schools and Camden Council, has launched its first ever Crowdfunder to raise money to support school children whose learning is most affected by the coronavirus pandemic.

More than 3,000 Camden pupils are without access to a computer – or have to share with siblings. Unless money is raised to buy laptops and Wi-Fi access, many of these children, who are among the most disadvantaged in the borough, will be denied the online learning they desperately need if they are sent home due to COVID-19 cases in their school or there is a local or national lockdown.

To support these pupils, Camden Learning is asking residents and businesses to support the Crowdfunder to end the digital divide.

To donate or find out more, visit crowdfunder.co.uk/end-the-digital-divide-for-camden-pupils



CORONAVIRUS CASES ARE RISING ACROSS LONDON

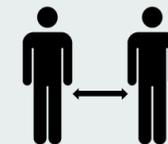
GOT SYMPTOMS? SELF-ISOLATE AND GET TESTED.

If you develop symptoms, or someone you live with does, self-isolating is vital because it will prevent you passing it on. If you need support to be able to self-isolate – for example if you need help accessing food, are worried about your finances or need support with your children's homeschooling – Camden Council can help. Call the Council on **020 7974 4444 (option 9)**.

FOLLOW PUBLIC HEALTH ADVICE



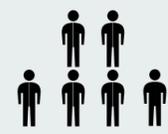
Wash your hands regularly



Keep 2 metres apart from people you don't live with



Wear a face covering in indoor public spaces where you can't social distance safely



Don't socialise in groups of more than 6

LOOK OUT FOR SYMPTOMS



New, continuous cough



High temperature



Loss of, or change to, your sense of smell or taste

GOT SYMPTOMS? STAY AT HOME AND GET TESTED.

Request a test online at

nhs.uk/coronavirus

OR CALL 119

IF YOU'RE STRUGGLING TO ACCESS A TEST, PLEASE KEEP TRYING.

REGARDLESS OF WHETHER YOU CAN ACCESS A TEST, YOU MUST SELF-ISOLATE.

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SIGN UP to the Council's coronavirus e-newsletter for regular service updates, news and support at camden.gov.uk/coronavirus-updates



I know that some residents with coronavirus symptoms have struggled to access a test in the past few days, which is frustrating and worrying. We are calling on the government to urgently fix the situation but, in the meantime, please keep trying to get a test via nhs.uk/coronavirus or by calling **119**.

Regardless of whether you can access a test though, if you develop symptoms, it's vital that you self-isolate to prevent you passing the virus on to others. I know that self-isolating will be hard for many people, so if you need support, please call us – **020 7974 4444 (option 9)**.

Finally, to those who will be marking the Jewish New Year – Rosh Hashanah – this weekend, I know celebrations will look different this year. I hope you are still able connect with family, even if it means virtually, to enjoy the celebrations safely.

Councillor Georgia Gould, Leader of Camden Council

Get your flu jab this autumn

There has never been a more important time to make sure you, and those you care for, are protected against flu.

If you're over 65, are pregnant, have a long-term health condition, are shielding or living with someone who is, speak to your GP or pharmacist to get the free flu vaccine. Book online with your local pharmacist at londonflu.co.uk School-aged children (up to Year 7) will also be offered the vaccine at school, while children aged 2 to 3 will be able to get a free nasal spray from their GP. Find out more at england.nhs.uk/london/our-work/getting-the-flu-vaccine

GOT SYMPTOMS? GET TESTED

If you develop coronavirus symptoms, it's important to self-isolate and get tested. Self-isolating means not leaving your home, except to get tested.

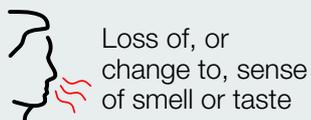
Look out for symptoms:



New, persistent cough



High temperature



Loss of, or change to, sense of smell or taste

To book a test, visit nhs.uk/coronavirus or call 119

If you're struggling to access a test, keep trying – appointments and test kits should become available throughout the day.

You must get tested within five days of having symptoms. If five days have passed and you haven't been tested, you must isolate for the full 10 days as you may be infectious, and your household will need to isolate for 14 days too.

Please only get a test if you have symptoms – a negative result could give false reassurance, as it takes time for coronavirus to reach levels that a test can detect, and you could also slow down somebody else accessing one.



Celebrating Rosh Hashanah

Please help keep yourself and your loved ones safe during Rosh Hashanah celebrations:

- While many synagogues remain closed, if you do visit one, wear a face covering, stay a safe distance from others and please follow COVID prevention measures in place.
- You can now only socialise in groups of up to six – including in private homes – so consider using video technology to help you celebrate Rosh Hashanah with family and friends.
- Many synagogues are streaming prayer sessions. If you don't have internet access, you can join a West Central Liberal Synagogue prayer session over the phone – call Rabbi Jackie on **020 8959 3129**.

COVID-19 stories



Christine, who lives in sheltered housing run by Camden Council in Bloomsbury, shares what life has been like during the pandemic:

“I have lost two people to COVID-19. I've tried to live a normal life and come to terms with what has happened, but I'm very sad for everyone.

“I had a lot of offers of help from neighbours, but I thought it was better for me to keep doing things for myself. My grandchildren stood outside my flat and we talked from a distance. Now I'm back working every Sunday at the Foundling Museum, which is open again.

“In our sheltered scheme we have the best management. They are kind and are here if we need anything, and they check on us three to four times a week. We all work together and it's exactly what I want: I care for you, you care for me.”

To find out more about sheltered housing in Camden visit camden.gov.uk/sheltered-housing or call **020 7974 4764**.

we make Camden

Do you have a story to share?

To help build a picture of the impact of the pandemic on the borough, Camden Council wants to hear your experiences. This will help the Council work towards making Camden a fairer, more equal place to live. Share your story at camden-covid19-stories.commonplace.is