

Keep in Touch



Coronavirus weekly update from Birmingham City Council

Welcome to the coronavirus weekly update from Birmingham City Council.

The update lets you know about Birmingham City Council's services, public health information, general advice on Covid-19, and other relevant news from the council and our partners so that we can keep you informed. If you have friends and family who are not online, please share the information in this bulletin with them.

You can find a full suite of information about Covid-19 on the council's [website](#).



Covid guidance

The government has announced new restrictions for Birmingham in order to push down the coronavirus rates of infection. From Tuesday 15 September Birmingham residents will not be able to mix with any other households, indoors or in private gardens, except for those in a support bubble. Find out more [here](#).

Testing is proving to be an effective way to contain the virus and everyone needs to do their part. Anyone with coronavirus symptoms, however mild, can get a free swab test that takes less than a minute. Tests should be booked or ordered as soon as symptoms begin [here](#) or by calling 119.

Staff from across the council, NHS and wider public sector will be knocking on doors in different areas of Birmingham to offer [free coronavirus tests](#). They will simply drop off a test, tell you everything you need to know, and come back to collect within the hour. If offered a test, please take it.

From next Friday (18 September) the hospitality sector will be required to [ask for contact details](#) of customers, visitors and staff on behalf of NHS Test and Trace. If you do not provide these details, you may be refused entry.

If you have recovered from Covid-19, you can support a vital clinical trial by [donating your blood plasma](#). By providing your antibody-rich plasma for testing, you could help develop treatments for coronavirus patients.

The organisers of [Birmingham's Frankfurt Christmas Market](#) have confirmed that the popular festive event will not take place this year as a result of the coronavirus pandemic.

If you're out and about this week, please: wear a mask where required; maintain social distancing; wash your hands; and provide details for track and trace. You can report a Birmingham business, breaching Covid-19 guidelines, anonymously [here](#).

Visit the council's website for [translated audio and written information](#) on Coronavirus Test and Trace.

For latest updates and advice on coronavirus, please visit the [government website](#).

Local news

Although Birmingham now has extra restrictions in place, businesses and schools remain open. Some of our community libraries, along with Library of Birmingham, are now offering a [browsing service](#) – you don't need to book ahead but you might need to queue!

Voi e-scooters has launched in Birmingham. You can get involved by downloading the [voi technology app](#) and find more about e-scooter safety via the online traffic-school [Ride Like Voila](#).

Back to school or work? Walking, scooting and cycling are great ways to travel - find out about schemes to make these better options for more people and offer your thoughts [here](#).

Are you thinking of learning a new language but not sure if online classes lessons are right for you? [Birmingham Adult Education Service](#) has several FREE online language tasters available, these are suitable for beginners and will give you a taste of how our online lessons will be running this term. To enrol, or for further information on any of the taster courses, please contact: information@baes.ac.uk

Birmingham Careers Service can help with careers guidance, but did you know there are many other support networks across Birmingham providing help for young people? Read the guide [here](#). You can also web chat [here](#) and contact the service [here](#).

Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery re-opens on 7 October! The new opening times will be Wed-Sun, 10am to 5pm. Free, timed tickets must be booked in advance [here](#).

[Birmingham Heritage Week](#) takes place until 20 September with 11 days of varied and fascinating events.

Birmingham Hippodrome is set to host the UK premiere of [Van Gogh Alive](#), a multi-sensory arts and entertainment experience for the whole family to enjoy! The exhibition will open from 8 October 2020.

[THE END OF FUN!](#) is the most comprehensive UK exhibition of work by Czech artist Krištof Kintera. It's a timely exhibition probing apocalyptic environmental issues we face, taking on a new poignancy in today's climate. The exhibition runs from 17 September - 22 November at Ikon Gallery.