

## COVID Email Update 20 July 2020

Good morning to you all, I hope you and your own families are all doing ok.

I would like to start our update by marking the death of John Lewis this weekend. John was one of the world's civil rights giants – an original Freedom Rider, one of the leaders of the Selma to Montgomery march in 1965, and a US Congressman for 33 years who fought tirelessly for black rights.

John means a lot to me because of his dedication to what he called '[love in action](#)' and 'getting in good trouble', and over the years he has shaped a lot of how I think about love in public service, in campaigning, and in allyship. If you want to read more on John Lewis, here is a link to [Barak Obama's statement](#) about him on Medium .

Updates for you this week.

### **Bubble Allocations and Seating Plans**

I will be writing to each of you individually this week to confirm your bubble allocation and your designated seat and desk at 5PS. This information is also on the Guidebook, so this is just a belt and braces so you all have the information direct

<https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/fscf-procedures-during-covid/returning-to-offices-and-face-to-face-work/>

### **Sending Packs to your Home**

We want to send starter packs containing a washable facemask, hand sanitiser and sanitiser wipes to your home. HR have said we need your permission to do that. When I email you about bubbles, I will also ask if you give your permission for your pack to be sent to your home – can you reply confirming yes or no?. If you prefer, you can collect your pack from 5PS.

### **New Checklist for Face-to-Face Visits**

Public Health advice is to risk assess every face-to-face visit, so to make sure we do that we have a new procedure for you to follow. This is a simple checklist of things to do before you have any face-to-face visit with a family. There will be a briefing on this on Wednesday; a calendar invite has been sent, please do come if you can.

### **Webinars - Getting Ready for Face-to-Face Work**

A reminder that our webinars to help us get ready for returning to face-to-face work, including ways we can help prevent infection spread before, during and after visits, start on Thursday. Calendar invites have been sent. Not mandatory but if you would find them helpful, please do come along. You only need to attend 1 session.

### **Letters to Families – Returning to Face-to-Face Work**

Last Thursday I sent out the letter templates for sending to children, young people and parents about our plans for returning to face-to-face work. You can also find them on the Guidebook here <https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/fscf-procedures-during-covid/returning-to-offices-and-face-to-face-work/#main> . It would be really good if you can please get letters out to all your families by 31 July so they can have a look at the information, decide what they would like to do, and talk with you about it. Thanks for your help with this.

### **Returning to School – Booklets in Other Languages**

Camden and Islington Public Health have produced booklets for parents about returning to school, and when to stay at home, in a range of languages. On the Guidebook here <https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/schools/returning-to-school-info-in-other-languages/>

### Key Contact Names for Camden Schools

Stevie Bennett has very kindly produced a comprehensive list of key contacts in every Camden school, including safeguarding lead, SENDCO, attendance lead and many more. This is now on the Guidebook here <https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/schools/contact-details-for-camden-schools/> - sincere thanks to Stevie

### Peer Support for Young People Affected By Parental Conflict

This new group from FYA is run by their young peer mentors over Zoom, offering peer support for young people affected by parental conflict or separation. Groups are starting now, and it's a very welcome addition to helping families experiencing parental conflict. More information here <https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/conflict-or-violence-in-the-home/parental-conflict/>

### Free Online Training – Youth Gaming and Gambling

VGAM are running free online training on this important topic. More information and how to sign up on the attached email.

### Holiday Food Programmes

We've just heard that Sidings and SHAK are running Holiday Food Programmes for children in low income families and children eligible for FSM. There will be 2 meals provided each day to take away, and a range of virtual and onsite activities. Contact Boris Witzenfeld at SHAK [borisw.shak@gmail.com](mailto:borisw.shak@gmail.com) or Sue at Sidings [manager@sidings.org.uk](mailto:manager@sidings.org.uk) if you have a family who might benefit from the Holiday Food Programme

### Weekly Survey

Please take 5 minutes to complete this weeks family needs survey here (use this link as we start a new survey each week) [FSCF FAMILY NEEDS SURVEY W/C 20 JULY](#)

### New information uploaded to the COVID Guidebook this week link here

<https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/> - the One Note Guidebook is no longer being updated, so please use the web-based Guidebook

<b>Financial Support Grants for People Under 30</b> The Irish Centre is offering grants for people under 30 who are on low incomes and have no savings <a href="https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/finance-bills-and-financial-hardship/grants-from-charities-trusts-and-foundations/">https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/finance-bills-and-financial-hardship/grants-from-charities-trusts-and-foundations/</a>	<b>New Summer Activities</b> Lots more ideas for things to do for children and families over the summer, including summer play schemes and a packed summer programme from our amazing friends in community centres and projects – well worth checking out <a href="https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/childrens-activities-and-home-learning/summer-holidays-things-to-do/">https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/childrens-activities-and-home-learning/summer-holidays-things-to-do/</a>	<b>Camden's Local Outbreak Plan</b> Camden has published its plan for how the borough will respond to local outbreaks of COVID <a href="https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/covid-nhs-and-government-information/local-lockdown-guidance/">https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/covid-nhs-and-government-information/local-lockdown-guidance/</a>
<b>Returning to School – Booklets for Parents in Other Languages</b> Public Health have produced a range of booklets for parents with information about returning to school and when	<b>Virtual/At Home Stay and Plays</b> IEYS now have a full programme of virtual stay and plays for parents and under 5's. <a href="https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-">https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-</a>	<b>Food, Families and Feelings</b> A new virtual programme from the Brandon Centre for families and children who might be struggling with healthy eating habits and its effects on their emotional wellbeing

<p>to stay at home in other languages  <a href="https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/schools/returning-to-school-info-in-other-languages/#main">https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/schools/returning-to-school-info-in-other-languages/#main</a></p>	<p><a href="https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guidebook/help-for-under-5s/home-stay-and-plays/">early-help-covid-guidebook/help-for-under-5s/home-stay-and-plays/</a></p>	<p><a href="https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/food/cooking-and-eating-at-home/">https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/food/cooking-and-eating-at-home/</a></p>
<p><b>Updated Travel info for Parents from TFL</b>          More information for parents from TFL to help support returning to school and use of public transport  <a href="https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/schools/transport-for-london-info-for-schools/">https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/schools/transport-for-london-info-for-schools/</a></p>	<p><b>Updated Public Health Guidance on Home Visits</b>          Camden and Islington Public Health updated their home visits guidance on 16 July 2020  <a href="https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/fscf-procedures-during-covid/face-to-face-visits-guidance-and-procedures/#main">https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/fscf-procedures-during-covid/face-to-face-visits-guidance-and-procedures/#main</a></p>	<p><b>Peer Support for Young People Affected by Parental Conflict</b>          A brilliant new group from FYA, led by their young peer mentors, offering a supportive space for young people affected either by conflict between their parents or parents separating  <a href="https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/conflict-or-violence-in-the-home/parental-conflict/">https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/conflict-or-violence-in-the-home/parental-conflict/</a></p>
<p><b>Keeping Contact Details of Visitors to Council Buildings</b>          Corporate have emailed all people managers with information about what contact details to keep if families are meeting us in Council buildings. This is for track and trace  <a href="https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/fscf-procedures-during-covid/returning-to-offices-and-face-to-face-work/#main">https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/fscf-procedures-during-covid/returning-to-offices-and-face-to-face-work/#main</a></p>	<p><b>Parents Peer Support Forum</b>          The Parent Forum, run by FIFs very own Angeline Johnson, is now on the Guidebook, and is meeting tomorrow and on a range of dates throughout the year – a wonderful space for parents to support each other and share their strengths  <a href="https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/keeping-families-emotionally-well/keeping-parents-emotionally-well/#main">https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/keeping-families-emotionally-well/keeping-parents-emotionally-well/#main</a></p>	

We are now in week 18 of COVID, and our capacity and referral rate continues to hold steady. We are now well into preparing for our return to face-to-face work from 3 August. Last Friday, the Government also announced a number of further relaxation of social distancing measures from 1 August, which we will all need to adjust to once again. It's okay to feel whatever you are feeling in this moment, and it's okay for those feelings to change from one day to the next. As always, we'll do all we can to hold the health and wellbeing of you, and the families you are helping, front and centre as we navigate through this next phase of COVID. I hope the range of things we are doing is helping, but if you need something different, please do let me know.

My sincere thanks to you as always, and stay safe and well.

Becca

Becca Dove  
 Head of Family Support and Complex Families