

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

You will no doubt be aware that London was added to the national COVID watch list on Friday. At this point, there are no additional restriction measures being put in place, but we will monitor this carefully this week. I am in regular contact with Public Health, and I will make sure I pass you any information as soon as I get it. A whole service meeting will be called if any changes are needed to our current working arrangements. Stay vigilant, and continue to tightly follow our procedures and the Governments social distancing guidance to help keep each other and families safe and well.

There was a request in last week's survey for some webinars on supporting asylum seeking families during COVID, period poverty and safety planning during COVID. Just to say I will make sure I factor those topics into the autumn webinar programme and watch this space.

Updates for you this week:

Black History Month

Following on from our webinar last week where we explored the history of race and racism, Black History Month starts this Thursday. This give us a platform to actively participate in raising the profile of black history that too often gets whitewashed. You can find the slides from last week's webinar plus lots of podcasts, articles and resources about black history on the Guidebook <https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/black-lives-matter-resource-repository/>

Camden's Budget and COVID

You will be aware that Camden, like all other local authorities, is facing financial pressures this year as a result of COVID. You can read about this on Essentials here <https://lbcamden.sharepoint.com/sites/intranet/communications/Pages/financial-impact-of-Covid-19-latest-update.aspx>. Camden's is now taking steps to try and reduce that pressure. This includes a vacancy freeze.

This means that any recruitment deemed to be essential must have authorisation from Martin's Directorate Management Team. It also means I have been told how much money the Council needs me to save from my salary budget by not recruiting to vacancies over the next 6 months.

Your service managers and I are now looking at our FSCF vacancies to decide what to do next, and particularly thinking about what the risks are if we don't fill those vacancies. I am sharing this with you so you know what is happening and why, and I'll make sure I keep you fully updated over the coming weeks. Please do get in touch if you have questions about this.

Furlough Scheme and Eviction Ban Due to End

A reminder that the government furlough scheme (which protected jobs during COVID) and the temporary freeze on evictions (which particularly protected private tenants from being evicted during COVID) are both due to end very soon. Although the Chancellor has announced a new package of support for employees and self employed, there is still likely to be significant impact on parents in terms of jobs, debt, income and housing. As we've mentioned in previous bulletins, there are lots of organisations available to support families, but they are getting incredibly busy.

If you are working with a family that is likely to be affected by either the end of the furlough scheme or the eviction ban ending, **please do connect families to advice services as soon as you can.**

You can find links to help on employment here <https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/employment-income-and-benefits/> help on tenancies and eviction here <https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/rents-tenancies-evictions-and-council-tax/> and contact details for legal and debt

advice services here <https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/legal-and-debt-advice/>

This Weeks Webinar – Non Violent Resistance

A reminder that this weeks webinar on non-violent resistance for parents experiencing child-to-parent violence is Wednesday at 11am. Should be a really informative session with ideas and strategies to take away, so hope to see you there. Let me know if you need the calendar invite again.

Camden COVID Data Now Available

Camden and Public Health England are now publishing the daily and weekly figures for COVID in the borough. This might be helpful in your discussions with families, so they have the most up to date information about the COVID situation in Camden. You can find the links to the data in a new Guidebook section here <https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/covid-nhs-and-government-information/camden-covid-data/#main>. This includes a link to look at the COVID data for any UK borough or county.

NHS App Now Available

A reminder that the NHS COVID-19' app to support NHS Test and Trace has been launched and is available for download on your mobile. For more information on the NHS COVID-19 app, visit www.covid19.nhs.uk or there is information on the Guidebook here <https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/covid-nhs-and-government-information/tests-for-covid-test-and-trace/#main>

Become a Camden COVID Health Champion

If you're a Camden resident, consider becoming a Camden COVID Health Champion. You'll get the latest guidance on COVID via a virtual briefing each week, and the only ask is that you share that information in your communities, at work and where you live. It's a fantastic scheme that can make a big difference.

You can sign up here <https://survs.com/survey/7qzk99jupy> and there is more info here <http://camdennewjournal.com/article/coronavirus-register-for-free-covid-19-health-champion-training-aug-27> (we'll have a family early help rep at the virtual weekly briefings too, to help Champions connect families to whatever help they need)

Changes to Childrens A & E

A reminder that both Royal Free and UCLH Childrens A & E are closed. Please do let parents know and what alternative hospitals they should use instead. More info here <https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/health-hospitals-gps-and-prescriptions/changes-to-child-a-e/#main>

Weekly Survey

The weekly survey is open for you to let me know about any emerging family needs, and anything you need. This weeks survey link is here [FSCF FAMILY NEEDS SURVEY W/C 28 SEPTEMBER](#)

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 Winch Family Support for 0-5s The Winch have restarted their support programme for parents with children aged 0-5 https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/help-for-under-5s/the-winch/#main	NW5 – Employment and Training Support for 16+ NW5 Project in Kentish Town have started a programme providing support for young people aged 16+ around employment, training and apprenticeships https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-	Black Lives Matter Resource Repository – Cultural Relativism Added to the Repository this week, exploring the idea of cultural relativism, cultural contracting and protecting children https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-
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	guidebook/employment-income-and-benefits/finding-a-job/#main	guidebook/black-lives-matter-resource-repository/resources-for-daily-practice/#main
<p>Camden COVID Data Now Available</p> <p>A new Guidebook section containing links to daily and weekly data about the COVID situation in Camden plus a link to look at the data for any UK borough or county</p> <p>https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/covid-nhs-and-government-information/camden-covid-data/#main</p>	<p>Project 17 – Support for Migrant Children</p> <p>Project 17 works to end destitution among migrant children and works with families in extreme poverty due to NRPF. Provides advice, advocacy, and emergency hotel fund</p> <p>https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/refugee-and-asylum-seeking-families/refugee-and-asylum-seeking-families/#main</p>	<p>NHS Track and Trace App</p> <p>The new Government App to help trace COVID cases has been launched</p> <p>https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/covid-nhs-and-government-information/tests-for-covid-test-and-trace/#main</p>
<p>School Nursing</p> <p>New Guidebook section with contact details for the school nursing team (with thanks to Lea)</p> <p>https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/schools/school-nurses/#main</p>	<p>New Government Jobs Support Scheme</p> <p>The new jobs support scheme will replace the furlough scheme from 1 November</p> <p>https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/employment-income-and-benefits/employees/#main</p>	<p>Support for Self Employed Extended</p> <p>The Government has extended the support for self-employed people to January 2021</p> <p>https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/employment-income-and-benefits/self-employed/#main</p>
<p>Changes to Children’s A & E</p> <p>Royal Free and UCLH childrens A & E are closed – more info here</p> <p>https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/health-hospitals-gps-and-prescriptions/changes-to-child-a-e/#main</p>	<p>What is Resilience?</p> <p>A new section exploring what resilience means and why that matters when we do assessments and plans</p> <p>https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/fscf-procedures-during-covid/assessments-and-plans-guidance/#main</p>	

We are now in week 28 of COVID, and whilst contacts at front door and referrals for family casework are rising, our current capacity remains stable and manageable. I will keep in contact with you as we monitor the second wave situation closely. As always, please do shout if there is anything you need.

Stay safe and well.

Becca

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