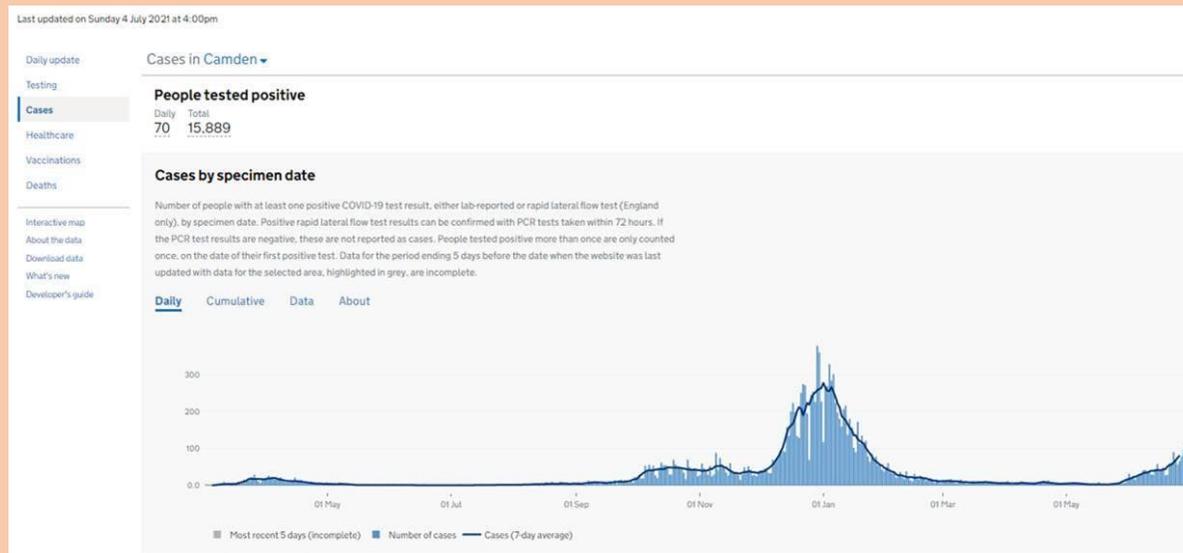


## COVID Email Update 5 July 2021 (dyslexia friendly version)

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

You will no doubt have seen that the Prime Minister is expected to make an announcement later today about the lifting of final lockdown restrictions on 19 July. We will monitor that carefully, and then as ever, consult with Public Health colleagues next week as we get closer to the 19<sup>th</sup>. Whatever the Government's recommendations are, we are clear that Camden will be continuing to proceed with some caution, including how we use buildings where 5PS will remain on limited numbers of staff until September. I will call a whole service briefing next week at 1pm on 14 July for us to walk through next steps together. Calendar invite to follow.

The current COVID case rate is below so you can see what is happening in Camden, which is not dissimilar to the rest of the country.



I also noticed that the COVID government data website is now including a chart showing the rates by age. Below is the chart for Camden. You will notice that the case rate is currently higher for young people and young adults (the darker the colour the higher the

current case rate). Please do hold this in mind in any visits you do with children and families and as ever, make sure you follow the face-to-face visits guidance to help you to protect them and yourself.



Updates for you this week:

## Lateral Flow Tests Reminder

A reminder that the current Government advice is to take a lateral flow test twice a week. Lateral flow tests are another way we can help protect both ourselves and the families we work with by regularly checking whether we have the virus, even when we don't have symptoms. You can get lateral flow test delivered to your home, or you can collect packs from many local organisations. If you are finding it difficult to obtain lateral flow test kits for any reason, your manager can have them delivered to 5PS for you to collect, or you can take a lateral flow test at numerous locations across Camden. More information about lateral flow tests 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/> .

## **Invite to the Supporting People Race Equality Forum**

Attached is an invite from our Executive Director Martin Pratt to a new Supporting People Directorate Race Equality Forum. This will be a space for anyone in Martin's Directorate to hear about the progress that is being made to address challenges identified within the directorate, participate in the development of our anti-discrimination commitments and the scrutiny of our delivery. Nicky Bryan and I are also part of a Supporting People Race Equality Catalyst Group, who are supporting the Directorates work. The Forum meeting is 14 July at 12pm – to attend, please email Sandra Soteriou for the Teams link. More info on the attached email.

## **Training – Identifying, Supporting and Protecting Girls and Women from FGM**

The Camden Safeguarding Childrens Partnership are running a training course on Female Genital Mutilation on 13 July 2021, 9.30 – 1pm on Zoom. It explores the roles and responsibilities of different professionals and the processes for handling cases of FGM, and how to work with families to holistically risk assess, support and protect girls at risk. More info and booking link on the attached email.

## **Short Course – Coping with Changes: Social – Emotional Learning Through Play**

The Lego Foundation have created a short course for anyone working with children to understand and apply learning through play and stress management strategies that can help. The course is free and is open-access so you can fit it around your working day as you want/need to. We all know about the social, emotional and mental health benefits of play for children, and that is needed more than ever, so this course is well worth a look. Link here <https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/coping-with-changes> .On the subject of play....

## **Summer in Camden Free Holiday Activities and Food Programme – Early Book for Early Help**

As part of the 'Summer in Camden' offer to 5-16yr olds, there will be a wide range of activities that are free for children who are eligible for free school meals. The activities will include a free meal. There will be an online booking system opening soon, and booking will open a week early for early help and social care families so they are prioritised. You can find out if a child is eligible for FSM on the Qlikview dashboard – see the family journey sheet and there is a square that looks like this to the right of the timeline

FSM: Y

. One to mention to parents and young people you are working with now so they know its available, and booking link to follow as soon as we have it.

## Weekly Survey

This week's family needs survey, for you to raise any issues you're seeing and noticing for families and anything you might need yourself, is now open here [FSCF FAMILY NEEDS SURVEY W/C 5 JULY 2021](#)

New information uploaded to the COVID Guidebook this week link here <https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/>

<b>No updates added this week</b>		
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We are now in week 68 of COVID and our capacity continues to hold steady.

I'll end this week with an update on our Family Early Help purpose and values. I've been thinking a lot recently about our purpose, how we fulfil that purpose, and being more explicit about our service's values and ethics. I've started to refresh our purpose and values statement and you can see the latest draft below. I'd welcome your thoughts and feedback so we can refine it further. Of course, these are just words and walking the walk matters far more. But being explicit about the values and ethics we want to uphold in all our work, whatever job we do, helps us to be explicit about who we are and what we stand for – and helps us know whether we can experience those values and ethics in our daily working lives.



## Family Early Help

### Our Purpose

To give practical and emotional help, with love and care, so that families can feel stronger

### Our Values

To act with integrity, curiosity, purpose, creativity, consistency, compassion and humility

To uphold the values of family support practice as rights-based, ethical, socially-situated, anti-racist, anti-oppressive and non-stigmatising, with equity and the wellbeing of children and families as our guiding principles

### Our Aims

To build relationships that help create the conditions for change

To work in strengths-based partnership with families

For families to leave us stronger than when they found us



Stay safe and well and, as ever, shout me if there is anything you need.

Becca

Becca Dove

Head of Family Support and Complex Families

Telephone: 020 7974 3603