

COVID Email Update 26 July 2021 (dyslexia friendly version)

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

With severe flooding and surface water across London yesterday, please take extra care on any journeys to, from and around Camden and check your route before you travel. Hampstead and Kilburn have been particularly affected again. If you are working with families affected by flooding who need help, please call Contact Camden (0207 974 4444) or if they are a Camden tenant contact their Neighbourhood Officer (link here to all their contact details

<https://lbcamden.sharepoint.com/sites/intranet/Housingmanagement/Pages/Housing-Management-.aspx> . If residents want to find out who their Neighbourhood officer is, they can use this search tool https://rcforms01.camden.gov.uk/~?a=nho_lookup&v=1&p=P1

For our staff who live in Camden, I sincerely hope you and your families are all safe and well, and please do reach out if there is anything you need.

Updates for you this week:

Self-Isolation Exemptions

You may have seen that the Government announced plans for more fully vaccinated critical workers to be permitted to leave self-isolation in exceptional circumstances. This would mean being able to attend work even if you have been asked by NHS Test and Trace to self-isolate. More detail here <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/fully-vaccinated-critical-workers-to-be-able-to-leave-self-isolation-in-exceptional-circumstances>

I've contacted Public Health to ask whether we are included in this critical worker definition, and if yes what the rules are. They'll be getting back to me later this week. Continue as we are for now until we have further instruction from Public Health.

Vaccinations for Under 18s

Last week, the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) advised that children at increased risk of serious COVID disease are to be offered the Pfizer vaccine. That includes children aged 12 to 15 with severe neurodisabilities, Down's syndrome, immunosuppression and multiple or severe learning disabilities. The JCVI also recommended that children and young people aged 12 to 17 who live with an immunosuppressed person should be offered the vaccine.

Young people aged 16 to 17 with underlying health conditions which put them at higher risk of serious COVID should have already been offered vaccination. Young people aged 16 to 17 years who are employed in, studying or in training for, health and social care work will also continue to be eligible for vaccination. JCVI recommended an ongoing offer of vaccination to those about to turn 18 years old. The JCVI is not currently advising routine vaccination of children outside of these groups, but it will keep its advice under review.

A link to more information has been uploaded to the Guidebook here <https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/covid-nhs-and-government-information/vaccinations/>

NHS Advice for Parents

North Central London CCG has refreshed their booklet about when and where to seek advice and help if you are concerned about your child's physical or mental health. It's a really useful document and one to share with parents. You can find it on the Guidebook here <https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/health/when-to-take-your-child-to-a-medical-professional/#main>

Summer for Children and Young People with Disabilities

There is a wealth of fun activities for children and young people with disabilities to enjoy in Camden over the summer. The CYPDS summer newsletter has loads of information about projects, activities and fun stuff to do. Well worth a look – see the attached email (with thanks as ever to Jeff Kotei in Short Breaks for the information)

Mama Youth Project – Digital Media Skills Training for 18-25 Year Olds

QCCA are promoting this training course for Camden young adults to participate in 6-weeks free intensive digital media training followed by a minimum of 2 weeks paid work placement with companies like Warner Bros, Sky and Hat Trick Productions. Travel and lunch expenses covered. More info, including how to apply, below:



MAMA YOUTH PROJECT **DIGITAL MEDIA TRAINING**

Application Deadline:
Monday 9th August, 11.59pm

Calling all young creatives with a passion for compelling content creation and a deep desire for a career in digital media. Apply now for 6 weeks of **FREE** intensive digital media training followed by a minimum of 2 weeks paid work placement. Travel and lunch expenses will be covered.

Applicants must be aged 18-25yrs and residents of Barnet, Brent, Camden, Ealing, Hammersmith & Fulham, Harrow, Kensington & Chelsea, the Cities of London or Westminster **ONLY**.

For more information and to apply visit:
www.MAMAYouth.org.uk

Logos: John Lyon's Charity, Lime Piccadilly, Fremantle, Banijay, NETFLIX, sky, and social media icons (Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, Pinterest).

The Toy Project – ‘Summer of Calm’ Quiet Play Project

The Toy Project are running a free ‘quiet play’ scheme for children aged 5 + at their venue in Archway. Includes lunch. A lovely option for children who might enjoy a quieter play experience. More details and how to book below. A reminder too about the brilliant Toy Project itself, which recycles pre-loved toys to give to low income families. I can’t tell you how many times they’ve helped us out and we’re thankful to have them on the doorstep. More info on the Guidebook here <https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/childrens-activities-and-home-learning/activity-packs-free-toys/#main>



New Law for People Made Homeless Due to Domestic Abuse

On 5 July 2021, an amendment to homelessness laws came into force so that households who have been made homeless as a result of domestic abuse will be considered automatic priority need status. This is important to know if you are working with a family who have fled, or who are experiencing, domestic abuse, including if they are still living with the perpetrator. You can read more about homelessness and domestic abuse here <https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/conflict-or-violence-in-the-home/housing-and-domestic-abuse/#main>

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 26 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/>

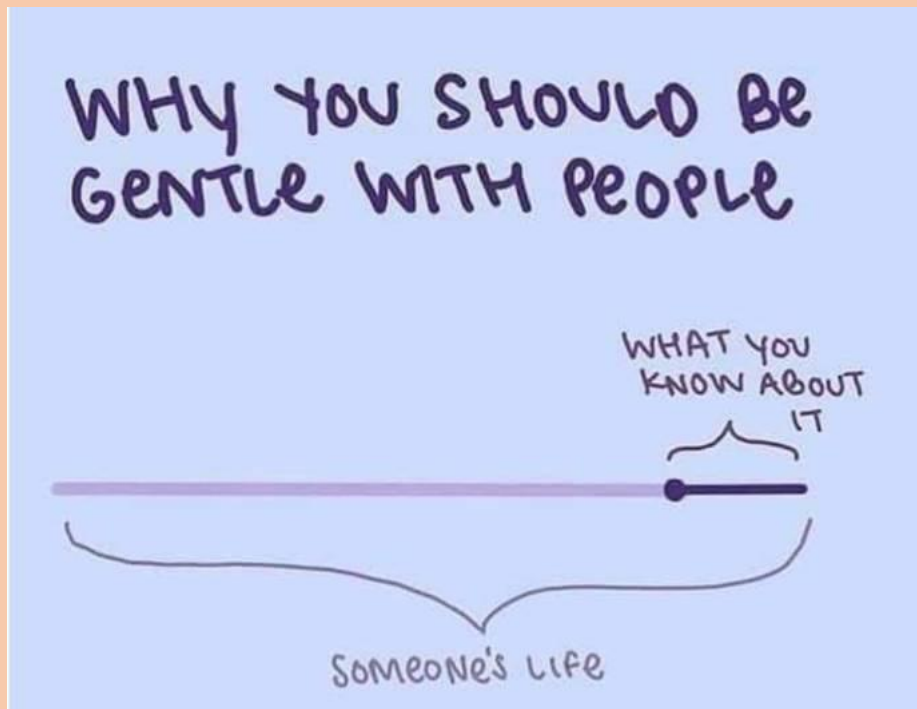
<p>Homelessness and Domestic Abuse</p> <p>Information about priority housing status for families who have fled, or are experiencing, domestic abuse</p> <p>https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/conflict-or-violence-in-the-home/housing-and-domestic-abuse/#main</p>	<p>Vaccinations and Children</p> <p>Information about the JCVI decision on offering vaccinations to some children aged 12-17.</p> <p>https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/covid-nhs-and-government-information/vaccinations/</p>	<p>NHS Advice for Parents</p> <p>Updated booklet for parents on when and how to seek help for your child if they need help with physical or emotional health</p> <p>https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/health/when-to-take-your-child-to-a-medical-professional/#main</p>
<p>Find Your Neighbourhood Officer</p> <p>Link for residents to find out who their Camden Landlord Services Neighbourhood officer is</p> <p>https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/homes-housing-and-council-tax/tenant-and-rent-issues/#main</p>		

We are now in week 71 of COVID and our capacity continues to hold steady.

I'll close this week's bulletin with some very wise reflections from a member of our service about wellbeing passports. The depth and complexity of the work we do means there are many things we may find more challenging or triggering because of our lived experience. The wellbeing passport is one thing that can help us to talk about those things if we want to, so that our supervisors can help us to navigate them. It also honours our historic and contemporary lived experience without having to tell our stories again and again.

So to you all – please do use the wellbeing passport to help you live well at work in whatever way you need, whether physical, practical or emotional. And to supervisors – please make sure you offer the wellbeing passport to everyone you help and support so they know it is there for them if they need it, and ask staff whether they already have a wellbeing passport <https://lbcamden.sharepoint.com/sites/intranet/communications/Pages/our-wellbeing-passport-is-here.aspx>

As I was reminded in dyadic developmental psychotherapy training last week, care-seeking behaviours are dependent on consistent care-giving behaviours. To the member of the team who raised it, I hope this honours you today too.



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

Becca