

Coronavirus cases are rising



Cases of Coronavirus are rising across our district, as well as other parts of Worcestershire.

Although we are still some way off the point where full local lockdown restrictions are needed, Worcestershire Public Health is monitoring the situation. An outbreak control plan is in place and action will be taken, if necessary, to protect residents.

It is really important we all keep playing our part to protect ourselves and each other.

Please make sure you are following social distancing guidelines at all times and remember:

Hands - wash them regularly with soap and water for 20 seconds or use an alcohol-based hand sanitiser

Face - wear a face covering in indoor settings where social distancing may be difficult, and where you will come into contact with people you do not normally meet

Space - stay 2 metres apart from people you do not live with where possible, or 1 metre with extra precautions in place (such as wearing face coverings or increasing ventilation indoors)

If you have symptoms you should self-isolate immediately and [book a free test online](#) or call 119.

You should also self-isolate if you are asked to do so by NHS Test and Trace.

[Read the guidance on how to self-isolate with a possible Coronavirus infection](#)

[Read the Coronavirus FAQs to find out what you currently can and cannot do](#)

Care homes closed to visitors

Care homes across Malvern Hills District have been closed to all but essential visitors.

This is a precaution to protect vulnerable residents following a rise in Covid-19 cases.

Dr Kathryn Cobain, Director for Public Health for Worcestershire said: "The decision to stop care home visits is not one we have taken lightly. I appreciate this will cause upset and frustration for some of our residents and I recognise this is very difficult for families.

"Looking at the rising numbers of cases in the district, we are concerned about the welfare of our most vulnerable and the wider community. I need to protect those at risk and prevent the further spread of Covid-19.

"We will review this on a daily basis and will lift these restrictions when we see numbers falling again. This is a sensible precautionary measure, it is better to act now than later."

[Read the full announcement on the closure of care homes to visitors](#)

Remember the rule of 6



New social distancing rules are being introduced on Monday, 14 September in England.

From this date, it will be illegal to meet with people you do not live with in groups of more than six indoors or outdoors.

This applies to private homes, pubs, restaurants, shops and other venues like places of worship. There are exceptions to this rule including schools and work places.

[Read the full guidance on changes to social distancing rules](#)

How well have we responded to Covid-19?



We are currently running our annual residents' survey.

This year, the survey includes questions on how the Covid-19 pandemic has impacted residents, as well as the response and support provided by us.

Feedback will be used to improve services and the ongoing recovery from Covid-19. A summary of the results will be published anonymously on our website.

The survey takes about 15 to 20 minutes to complete but progress can be saved so it can be completed in stages.

[Take our residents' survey](#)

Deadline is midnight on 4 October 2020.
