



Information

for adult social care providers

CORONAVIRUS

**PROTECT
YOURSELF
& OTHERS**

 Leicestershire
County Council

Issue 77 – 11 March 2021

Dear Colleagues,

As always, this bulletin contains the latest COVID-19 information relating to adult social care. This issue focusses on encouraging vaccine confidence within the workforce, and support to care homes in communicating the new visiting arrangements with relatives and friends of residents.

Supporting vaccine confidence amongst care home staff

In response to engagement with care homes across Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland recently, a tool to help engage staff in healthy conversations around vaccine confidence has been developed.

The vaccine confidence tool is available on the Healthy Conversation Skills website:
<https://www.healthyconversationskills.co.uk/vaccineconfidence>

On this page, you will find bespoke resources that have been developed to support your conversations with staff to improve vaccine confidence. There is the tool, and an introductory video to familiarise yourself with ahead of your conversations. There are also links and information to help when having, or following-up, on your conversations.

Further resources will be added over the coming weeks so keep checking back on the page.

COVID vaccination advice if you're of childbearing age, pregnant or breastfeeding

We know that workers may have queries relating to pregnancy, fertility and breastfeeding.

There is no evidence that the COVID-19 vaccine is unsafe if you are pregnant. But more evidence is needed before you can routinely be offered it.

The Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) has updated its advice to recommend you may be able to have the vaccine if you are pregnant and:

- at high risk of getting coronavirus because of where you work or
- have a health condition that means you're at high risk of serious complications of coronavirus

You can have the COVID-19 vaccine if you're breastfeeding.

Speak to a healthcare professional before you have the vaccination. They will discuss the benefits and risks with you.

You do not need to avoid pregnancy after vaccination. The vaccine cannot give you or your baby COVID-19. For more information please see:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-vaccination-women-of-childbearing-age-currently-pregnant-planning-a-pregnancy-or-breastfeeding>

Regarding fertility, the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecology (RCOG) and the Royal College of Midwives (RCM) have confirmed there is “no biologically plausible mechanism” by which current vaccines would cause any impact on women's fertility. For more information please follow this [link](#) to the RCOG.

Letter to families and friends of those living in care homes in Leicestershire about the new visiting guidance

Earlier this week we sent a template letter relating to care homes, encouraging them to share it with families and friends of those living in your care home. It seeks to supplement communications with relatives and friends relating to the new national visiting guidance which was implemented on Monday 8 March 2021.

You can find the letter, for which the wording is consistent across LLR, here <https://resources.leicestershire.gov.uk/sites/resource/files/field/pdf/2021/3/10/new-visiting-guidance-Leicestershire-care-homes.doc>. We hope that you find it useful in providing information and addressing queries.

Yours sincerely,

Jon Wilson

Director of Adults and Communities

Mike Sandys

Director of Public Health

The archive of all previous COVID-19 provider bulletins released since March 2020 can be found at <https://resources.leicestershire.gov.uk/adult-social-care-and-health/working-with-you-during-coronavirus>