



This week national restrictions have continued to ease as part of the government's roadmap out of lockdown.

While this is another important step towards normality, please adhere to the rules still in place to ensure that infection rates remain as low as possible.

By continuing to follow the hands, face, space and fresh air guidelines; getting tested regularly and taking the vaccine when offered we can all do our bit in helping to keep Hillingdon safe.



Restrictions update - what's changed?

- Indoor hospitality can reopen and indoor entertainment can resume, including cinemas, museums, and children's play areas.
- All remaining outdoor entertainment can also reopen, such as outdoor cinemas and performances.
- Some larger events will be able to take place, including conferences, theatre and concert performances, and sports events.
- Organised adult sport and exercise classes can resume indoors, and saunas and steam rooms can reopen.
- Up to 6 people or 2 households can meet indoors and up to 30 people outdoors.
- The public can make informed, personal decisions on close contact, such as hugging friends and family. Close contact continues to carry a risk of catching or spreading COVID-19, and people must consider the risk to themselves and to others and to continue to get tested regularly.
- COVID-secure rules, including social distancing, remain for the workplace and businesses, such as in shops and hospitality settings.
- Up to 30 people are now able to attend weddings, receptions and commemorative events, including wakes.
- Care home residents can have up to 5 named visitors, with 2 visitors able to attend at once provided they are tested and follow infection control measures.
- Face coverings are no longer needed in classrooms or for students in communal areas in secondary schools and colleges. The reintroduction of face coverings for pupils, students or staff may be advised for a temporary period in response to particular localised outbreaks, including variants of concern.
- People can go on foreign holidays to green list countries.



[Find out more](#)

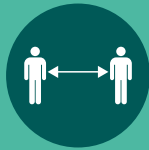
PLEASE CONTINUE TO



Wash your
hands



Cover your
face



Keep a safe
distance



Let fresh
air in



Get tested
regularly



Take the vaccine
when eligible



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www.hillingdon.gov.uk/coronavirus

Continue to get tested

People are encouraged to take regular tests to help to prevent outbreaks and reclaim a more normal way of life. One in three people with COVID-19 do not experience any symptoms and may be spreading the virus unwittingly. Rapid testing detects cases quickly, meaning positive cases can isolate immediately.

If you do not have symptoms you can choose one of the following ways to get tested:

- 1) Community testing** We have 7 local community testing sites across the borough where you swab yourself under the supervision of a trained operator.
- 2) 'Community Collect' home-test service** If you're not showing any COVID-19 symptoms, you can get a twice-weekly home test, which can be ordered and collected from one of our community testing sites or delivered to your home.
- 3) Pharmacy collect** Pick up a free box of home test kits from your local pharmacy. Calling ahead to check stock availability is advised.
- 4) Workplace testing** This includes testing sites, where you can take a supervised test, and 'workplace collect', where you can pick up a box of tests to use at home. Speak with your employer to check if this is available and to find out more.
- 5) Education** Secondary school and college students will continue to be provided with tests to use at home twice a week, throughout term-time and the holidays.



[Read more](#)

If you have any COVID-19 symptoms (a continuous cough, high temperature, or loss or change to your sense of smell or taste), you should self-isolate and book a test by visiting the government website or calling 119.

Enhanced COVID-19 testing in some HA4 postcodes

Extensive tracking of COVID-19 has identified a single case of the variant first discovered in South Africa in Ruislip.

This case cannot be traced back to international travel, and the infected person has completed self-isolation in line with government guidance and robust contact tracing has taken place to trace their contacts and ask them to self-isolate.

Working in partnership with Public Health England and NHS Test and Trace, every person aged over 16 living and working in a targeted area within the HA4 postcode is being asked to take a PCR COVID-19 test, whether they are showing symptoms or not. Even those who have been vaccinated are being encouraged to take a test.

People with symptoms should book a test in the usual way by visiting the government's website or calling 119.

The council is offering additional PCR testing for people without symptoms living or working in the targeted area until Sunday 23 May. This testing is available at South Ruislip Young People's Centre, Victoria Road, HA4 0JE or Haste Hill Golf Course, The Drive, Northwood, HA6 1HN daily between 8am and 8pm. Attendees are required to book an appointment in advance at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/enhanced-testing.

All positive test results in the targeted area will be sequenced to identify any further spread of the variant.

If someone tests positive, they must self-isolate immediately and pass on details of their contacts to NHS Test and Trace. Our COVID-19 Community Hub will be contacting those who test positive to offer a range of support.

[Find out more and view map of the targeted area](#)

COVID-19 vaccination update

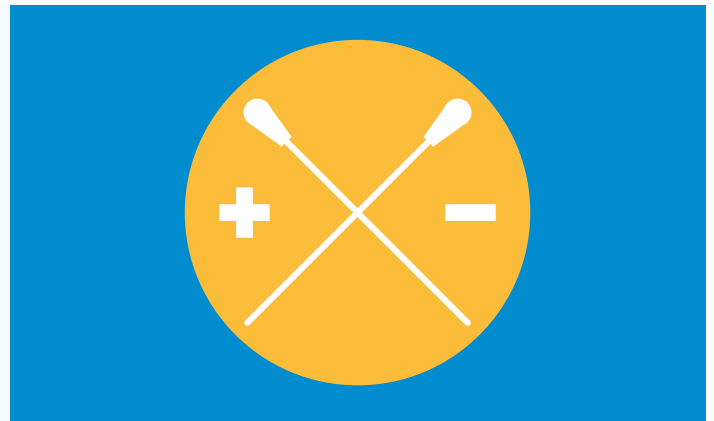
More than 200,000 residents have now been vaccinated in Hillingdon.

This is an impressive uptake - thank you to everyone eligible who has taken their vaccine, and thank you to our partners the NHS, Hillingdon CCG and volunteers for their good work in rolling out this programme.

If you are 36 and over or eligible because you are deemed high risk, we would like to encourage you to book your vaccination appointment as soon as possible.

As announced last week, second doses will be accelerated for over-50s and those clinically vulnerable so that these will now take place 8 weeks after the first dose.

[Find out more](#)



More of our leisure services reopen

As restrictions continue to ease, more of our leisure services have reopened and are looking forward to welcoming you back.

The Battle of Britain Bunker Exhibition and Visitor Centre has reopened and Manor Farm House will reopen from Wednesday 19 May.

Children's performing arts classes will resume at the Compass Theatre.

[Find out more](#)

Late May Bank Holiday waste and recycling collection dates

To minimise disruption to waste and recycling collections over the late May Bank Holiday, we will be working on Saturday 5 June.

Normal collection day	Revised collection day
Monday 31 May (Bank Holiday)	Tuesday 1 June
Tuesday 1 June	Wednesday 2 June
Wednesday 2 June	Thursday 3 June
Thursday 3 June	Friday 4 June
Friday 4 June	Saturday 5 June

Please leave your rubbish out for collection by 6am, near your front gate, but not on the pavement. Separate arrangements are in place for flats and business premises.

[Read more](#)

Our new food waste vehicles are in operation and food waste is now being collected separately from garden waste as part of our drive to increase recycling rates and protect the environment.

Garden waste will be collected and processed as normal, whereas food waste will be broken down into renewable energy to generate electricity, fuel for transport and fertiliser for farmers.

All you need to do is use your kitchen and outdoor caddy, and we'll do the rest via our free weekly collections. If you haven't already, sign up for our food waste service today at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/food-waste.

Could you make a difference?

It's Foster Care Fortnight, and foster homes for teenagers in Hillingdon are needed more than ever.

We're looking for caring people who want to make a difference to the lives of teenagers – many of whom may have had a challenging start in life.

[Find out more](#)

Apply for the EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS)

EU, EEA or Swiss citizens and their families have fewer than 50 days left to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS).

The scheme allows you to continue living and working in the UK following Brexit.

The deadline for applications is Wednesday 30 June.



[Find out more and apply](#)

Have your say on our climate action plan

Care about the environment? Want to have a say in how the council works to become carbon neutral and make Hillingdon a place where people and nature thrive?

Please share your views on our draft climate action plan before the Sunday 20 June deadline.

Have your say on...

[Share your views](#)

Get involved in the Great British Spring Clean

To coincide with this year's Great British Spring Clean campaign, we're organising 3 community litter picking events in May and June.

Join our community in clearing litter from Hillingdon's streets and parks and help to keep the borough clean. Places are limited and must be booked in advance.

- Hillingdon House Farm on Wednesday 26 May, 11am to 1pm
- Pinn Meadows, Ruislip on Saturday 12 June, 10.30am to midday
- Cranford Park on Sunday 13 June, 11am to 1pm



[Find out more and book your place](#)

Primary school pupils, can you help name our new food waste trucks?



Enter the competition at  www.hillingdon.gov.uk/name-a-truck