

Kent Adult Social Care Provider Bulletin



Friday 5 February 2021

Thank you for your continued efforts during severe weather

We would like to say a big thank you to all social care staff for keeping services working in the recent snow, ice and sub-zero temperatures, on top of the challenges we're facing in protecting against Covid. A particular mention is due for those coordinators who have been keeping the communications going, making quick decisions and orchestrating everything to keep the show on the road.



We've heard stories of people going the extra mile to make sure people got the care they need, and we want to let you know that we whole heartedly appreciate your efforts.

To keep updated about the weather conditions visit www.metoffice.gov.uk. You can also sign up for flooding alerts here <https://www.gov.uk/sign-up-for-flood-warnings>.

Award-winning arts charity helps to brighten winter days

Bright Shadow, a local arts charity supporting people living with dementia and those affected by it announces new funding from the Pargiter Trust and the Overstone Trust. This will enable the award-winning charity to carry on delivering their innovative package of creative activities to families, community groups and care home residents. There are several strands of the Zest at Home initiative currently taking place via the online platform Zoom. These range from tailored one-to-one sessions which are offered free to families, to six one-hour sessions which are also being offered free to care home residents in the Kent area.

Artistic and creative activity is proven to encourage social interactions, increase self-confidence and boost wellbeing.



Zest Dementia Arts
2021.pdf

Email: info@brightshadow.org.uk

Website: www.brightshadow.org.uk

KiCA: Free membership for all CQC registered Adult Social Care providers in Kent

Following recent funding received from Kent County Council, KiCA are able to offer free membership to ALL CQC registered Adult Social Care providers in Kent.



We represent all areas of the sector, residential homecare, Learning Disabilities and Mental Health. KiCA are your voice for care in Kent.

Do not miss this opportunity to join your local Care Association. For further information, please visit: www.kica.care or contact: louise.faulkner@kica.care

We look forward to continuing to support you and your organisation through these difficult and challenging times.

Lateral flow testing at point of entry

We recognise the increased pressure across social care and that the majority of care providers are doing everything they can to keep people safe.

We have become aware that in some areas CQC inspectors are being asked to take a Lateral Flow Test (LFT) and on occasion being refused entry if they don't comply. The CQC inspectors have been advised not to take these tests as they're already part of a regular testing regime.

All CQC inspectors are recognised as 'visiting professionals' under Department for Health and Social Care (DHSC) guidance which explains:

A visiting professional is defined as anyone visiting the care home in a professional capacity, for example a chiropodist. Some visiting professionals, including NHS staff and CQC inspectors will already be part of a regular testing regime, and therefore they will not need testing on the door of the care home.

The CQC have assured us that all inspectors visiting your locations are being tested weekly for Covid-19, which gives us a consistent approach to testing.

This is in addition to existing protections for CQC staff engaging in inspection and registration visits:

- risk assessments are completed by each member of the inspection team before all site visits
- training on how to use Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is completed
- training on Infection Prevention and Control is completed

Residents with learning disabilities added to vaccination priority list

NHS Kent and Medway Clinical Commissioning Group have taken the decision to include all adults with learning disabilities who are on the GP learning disability registers in the first phase of the vaccination delivery in order to mitigate health inequalities. There are approximately 9,500 people in Kent and Medway on GP learning disability registers.



Residents of care homes for people with learning disabilities are being vaccinated and those living independently or with family will be contacted via their GP service. The Community Learning Disability Nursing Team is providing a service to vaccinate adults with learning disabilities who are not able to attend the Primary Care Network vaccine sites.

During December 2020 there was an increase in the number of people with learning disabilities dying from Covid-19. In response Kent and Medway Clinical Commissioning Group has adapted the local vaccine implementation plan to respond to this health inequality that is impacting our learning-disabled population.

Adapting the priority list to reflect evidenced local need will not disrupt other vaccination priorities but allows for the inclusion of an additional clinically vulnerable group, in line with the national contract and Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisations (JCVI) guidance.

For more information: <https://www.kentandmedwayccg.nhs.uk/news-and-events/news/residents-learning-disabilities-added-vaccination-priority-list>

Please refer to the inclusion tool included below that has been sent to GPs as part of a pack to use, by the GP Clinical Lead for learning disability.



Inclusion-tool-Jan-2019-3.pdf

If people are not sure whether they (or their loved one) are on the learning disability register, you can complete the tool including a letter (like the one available [here](#)) and send to the GP practice.

Sixth Kent Registered Manager Conference

10 March 2021

Due to Covid-19, this event is a webinar.

This free event is open to all registered managers, deputies, owners, nurses, and senior staff, providing an opportunity to keep updated on what is happening within the sector. Hear from national and local speakers and attend a choice of virtual workshops. For more information see the flyer below.



10 March Reg Man
Conference Flyer-fin

Life after Covid: survey for adults with learning disabilities

This message is sent on behalf of the Learning Disability and Autism Executive Board co-chair.

The Learning Disability and Autism Executive Board for Kent and Medway is planning how best to support people to return to a full life after Covid-19 lockdown. Key to this is take up of the vaccine - [adults with a learning disability in Kent and Medway have been given priority access](#) based on clinical evidence of risk to life and health. Bemix has co-produced this online [Easy Read survey](#) for the Board to find out how adults with learning disabilities are feeling about the future and what support they need.

We would very much value you supporting people to complete the survey. If a printed version is easier to use, you can print [this version](#) or contact the Bemix admin team on 01227 374285 or at info@bemix.org to have a copy posted to you with a stamped addressed envelope for return. The survey will stay open, but the sooner people complete it, the more it will improve early planning. The support needs of autistic adults who are not eligible for early vaccination are also being carefully considered - we expect to communicate about this at a later date.

With warm thanks for your help.

Steve Chapman, Self-Advocate Co-Chair and Xan Brooker, Senior Commissioner

Briefing for care providers (in residential care homes, supported living or individuals own homes)

EU settlement scheme: Helping EEA nationals with Care and Support needs apply for settled status (to be allowed to stay in the UK and access benefits and the NHS)

This briefing is for care providers who provide support to adults on behalf of KCC:



Briefing for Care
Providers v3-.docx

Important information to support the Covid-19 vaccination of social care workers

Please see the letters below that contain important information for providers; within the letter dated 10 February, there is information about accessing the vaccine which is different to the process to date. In the final letter to providers there is information about supporting frontline social care workers to receive their Covid-19 vaccination.



10 February Letter
(Important informati



Final Letter to
Providers_.pdf

Inspirational cookery demos for your care home



INSPIRATIONAL COOKERY DEMOS FOR YOUR CARE HOME
NACC VIRTUAL SEMINAR

Sponsored by
AimiA foods

FREE to attend
book your place:
<http://bit.ly/NACCFeb21>

Tim Ware
Green Tree Court,
Lexicon Health Care

Matthew Dodds
Head Chef,
Gracewell of Ascot

Simon Lawrence
Head of Culinary & Hospitality,
Avery Healthcare

James Cotton
Cavendish Park Care Home by Majesticare

NACC
National Association of Care Catering

Thursday 25th February 2:00 - 3:30pm

Join us on Thursday 25 February 2021 from 2.00pm at our 'Inspirational Cookery Demos for your Care Homes Virtual Seminar.

Watch live while these talented care chefs prep, cook and style their recipes - describing their dishes as they go and sharing modern twists, valuable tips and advice that you can use in your care homes.

You'll see some delicious dishes cooked by these great chefs:

- Tim Ware, Green Tree Court, Lexicon Health Care
- Matthew Dodds, Head Chef, Gracewell of Ascot
- Simon Lawrence, Head of Culinary & Hospitality, Avery Healthcare
- Gareth Cartledge, Avery Healthcare
- James Cotton, Cavendish Park Care Home by Majesticare

This seminar is free to attend and everyone is welcome, so let's get cooking!

[Book your place](#)

[View the agenda](#)

The seminar is sponsored by AimiA Foods and hosted by Preston Walker, NACC Midlands Regional Chair and Mark Taylor NACC South East Regional Chair.



