

A message from Cllr Clare Coghill  
Leader of Waltham Forest Council



## Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update



The situation in Waltham Forest continues to be extremely serious and from Wednesday we will move into Tier 3 restrictions across London. Over the last week, we have had over 1125 residents test positive for Covid-19 so it is vital that you take immediate action to protect yourself at this time.

Due to the seriousness of the situation, we have been speaking with Primary and Secondary school Headteachers and teachers Unions across the borough. With their support we are recommending that all schools move to online learning and only remain open for key worker and vulnerable children for the rest of this week. We are recommending doing so as soon as possible to stop the spread of coronavirus.

Each school will make their own decision and will contact parents to make arrangements for children's continued learning this week.

This is not a decision any school will take lightly, and we recognise the disruption this will cause children and their parents and guardians. I believe that this emergency action is needed at this time because of the high level of infection rates alongside the time of the year where we know that people are planning to get together under the Government's Christmas guidelines. This makes the risk of infection particularly high.

We are working with schools to allocate food vouchers for every school and nursery pupil on School Meals and the Early Years Pupil Premium to use during the Christmas holiday. If you haven't been contacted by your school but think you should be eligible for these vouchers, please [email the team](#) or call 0333 400 5932.

Protecting yourself and those around you has never been more important, so please take the time to read the new restrictions that will be in place and get tested this week if you are able to.

Let's keep going and together we will get through this.

#StaySafeWF

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## Getting tested in Waltham Forest



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### Why are you asking for a test?

I've been told to get another coronavirus test

I'm ordering for someone I live with who has coronavirus symptoms

My local council or health protection team has asked me (or someone I live with) to get a test, even though I do not have symptoms

I'm part of the National Tactical Response Group (NTRG), or someone I live with is

None of the above

Continue

This week, we've made sure our residents can get tested even if you are not experiencing symptoms.

There are community testing centres where you can quickly and easily get a test.

There are walk-in sites at **Stanley Road car park, Leyton** and **Linford Road car park, Walthamstow**. These sites are now open from 7am - 9pm every day.

You can also pre-book for our drive-in site at The Score Card car park in Leyton which is open every three days.

To book at the drive-in site, please call 119 or [book online](#).

If booking online select the 'Council asked me to get tested' option, as shown in the image above.

To get a test in Waltham Forest:

- You do not need to have symptoms to get a test
- If you do have symptoms, please do not travel on public transport or by taxi to these sites
- Please wear a face covering when attending the testing site and keep apart from other people

## What you can and can't do in Tier 3



From Wednesday, along with the rest of London, Waltham Forest will be in Tier 3 (Very High Alert Level.) We must follow the new rules from Wednesday to make sure we stop the spread of coronavirus.

From Wednesday:

- You must not mix indoors with anyone you do not live with, apart from your support bubble
- You must only mix outdoors in groups of six
- Hospitality must close, with the exception of sales by takeaways, drive-through or delivery
- You should work from home if you can
- Indoor group activities or classes should not take place
- Places of worship will remain open, but you must not interact with

## Waltham Forest test sites

anyone you do not live with or who is not in your support bubble

To read the full restrictions for Tier 3, please visit the government website.

## Tier 3 restrictions

Do you need help with...



The banner features five teal hexagonal icons on a green background. From left to right: 1. 'COMMUNITY HELP NETWORK' with the tagline 'Supporting Waltham Forest Together'. 2. 'Food' with a shopping bag icon. 3. 'Prescriptions' with a clipboard icon. 4. 'befriending' with a handshake icon. 5. 'Financial assistance' with a hand holding a coin icon. Below the icons, it says 'Call 020 8496 3000 7am - 7pm seven days a week Visit walthamforest.gov.uk/chn' and includes the Waltham Forest logo.

Information and advice regarding Coronavirus (COVID-19) is changing quickly and its important you keep up to date with those changes. The Council will be using email newsletters to keep residents and businesses up to date.

If residents have questions please visit our [website](#), and use live chat to talk to one of our team, it's quicker than phoning.



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