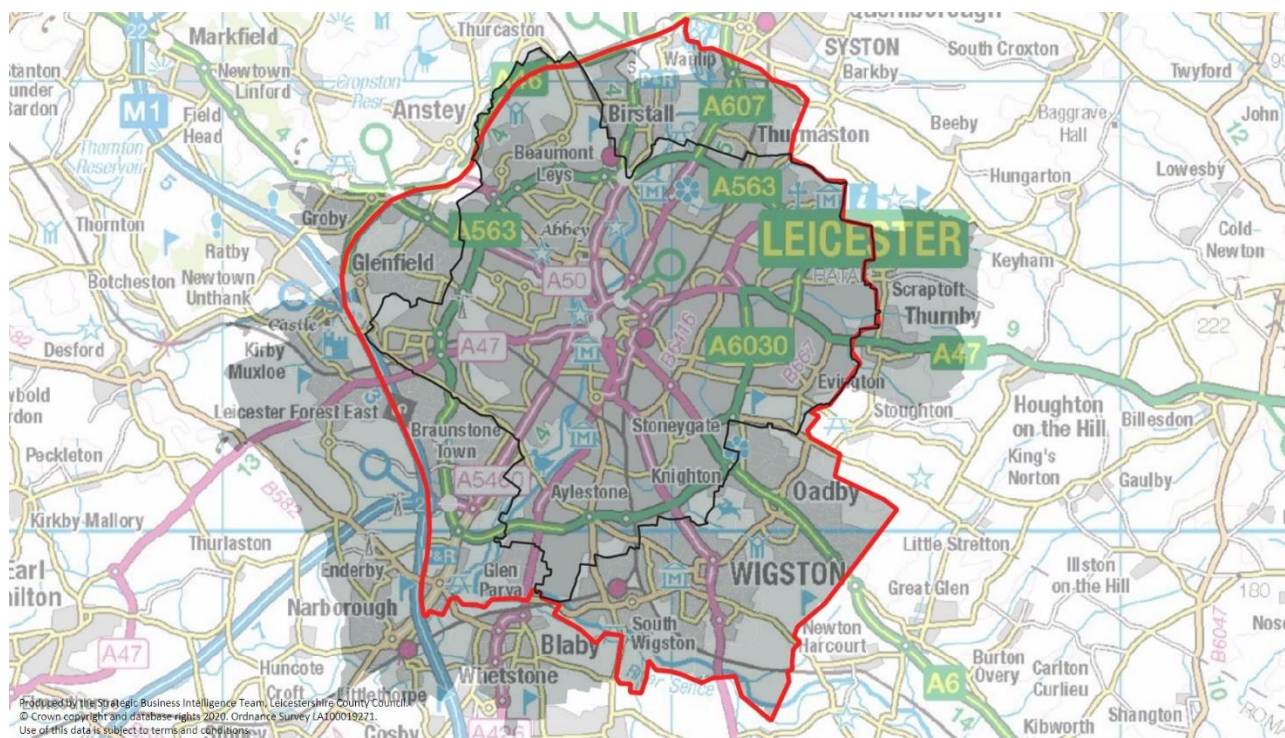


## LA Briefing for PCF – Thursday 2nd July 2020

So, just as our Covid recovery was beginning to take shape, we are once again faced with an extended lockdown for many people living, working and attending schools in our area. The anxiety faced by families is still very present. The return (or not) to school for some pupils, dependent on risk assessments, the planned opening up of the high street, the requirements to maintain social distancing everywhere and to wear face masks in many environments as well as the continued limitations on social interactions are all factors we need to consider. We all watch on with bated breath to see if the further two-week localised lockdown imposed by the government has the desired effect to contain the spread of the virus, let's really hope so and do all we can to help by following the rules.

Further to the announcements, a map has now been published and is shown here.



Please note – **the area within the red line is affected**: the grey area represents the “super output area” which is used for economic reporting purposes and we understand not to be relevant to this situation.

Schools in this area are again closed from Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> July apart from for children of key workers and vulnerable children. No schools outside of the red boundary should close, even if close to the border. Further information is available on the County Council website:

<https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/coronavirus-covid-19/how-you-can-help/increased-restrictions-for-leicester-and-parts-of-leicestershire-announced>

Regarding travel in and out of the boundary. The following principles have now been agreed:

- Critical workers, education staff (including nursery staff, teachers, social workers) **are** permitted to travel into / out of Leicester to go to their jobs, in order to maintain provision for vulnerable children/children of critical workers.
- Vulnerable children / children of critical workers **are** also permitted allowed to travel into / out of Leicester for education/care or, in the case of vulnerable children, to attend meetings with social workers/family courts. This would include parents taking children to school.
- That **no other children** should travel in and out of the restricted area to attend education / care – therefore for children and young people who are not in the vulnerable children or critical/key worker categories that live in Leicester but attends school outside, they **must** stay home. Likewise, pupils living outside of Leicester and who travel into the city for schooling, must stay home because the schools inside Leicester will not be offering places to anyone other than vulnerable children/critical worker children.

Here's a reminder of the guidance for parents and carers as schools and other education settings in England that are open to more children and young people:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers>

### **Summer holiday food vouchers**

Through the Covid Summer Food Fund, schools can support eligible pupils with a £90 voucher to cover the 6-week holiday period. The vouchers will be ordered by the school at least one week before the summer term ends and will be issued to the family within 7 days. Edenred is the organisation that issue the vouchers and parents and carers can email any queries to:

[freeschoolmealsparentscarers@edenred.com](mailto:freeschoolmealsparentscarers@edenred.com)

### **Home learning**

On the link below you will find some excellent resources for learning, including for children and young people with SEND across all age groups. There are also tips for parents as well as learning games and apps, online, downloadable and printable resources. There's enough here to keep everyone busy:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-online-education-resources>

### **Co-production week**

The 6<sup>th</sup> to the 10<sup>th</sup> July is co-production week which promotes working together. The theme for this year is “**Co-production in a Changing World**”

<https://www.scie.org.uk/co-production/week/>

If you have any examples of good practice of co-production that you are willing to share, please send any information to [brenda.wile@leics.gov.uk](mailto:brenda.wile@leics.gov.uk)

## Emotional Health and Wellbeing Leaflets

We think these are very helpful to support emotional health and well-being.



Parent Leaflet re  
Supporting CYP with



U0180 CYP  
RESOURCE PACK BO

## External resources

1. SEND resources, activities and support to help you and your family during lockdown

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zh9v382>

2. A series of information resources and links to wider resources to help parents, carers and families support pupils with SEND at home during the period of school closures under the 4 broad areas of need.

[www.ucl.ac.uk/ioe/departments-and-centres/centres/centre-inclusive-education/homeschooling-children-send](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/ioe/departments-and-centres/centres/centre-inclusive-education/homeschooling-children-send)

3. Reach out ASC: Preparing Autistic & SEND Children for going back to school

<https://www.schudio.tv/courses/take/preparing-autistic-send-children-for-going-back-to-school/lessons/12474279-finding-hope-in-the-familiar>

## Children and Families Wellbeing Service Update

Children and Family Wellbeing Service have been busy working with colleagues in Disabled Children Service and have now sent information out to families about summer play schemes for 2020. Families will have received a letter by now with information about the direct payments scheme with a stamped addressed envelope to return the direct payments agreement to County Hall. For the small number of families who had not yet been assessed for summer playschemes, a fast-track process has been put in place to ensure that everyone receives their payment card as near to the start of the summer holidays as possible. Information is also on the Local Offer.

After ironing out some technical difficulties, our first Triple P Seminars will be delivered at the start of July over skype video call. Families are provided with instructions on how to access the free skype provision so that they can participate but will need either a smart phone, laptop or tablet\*. Families who have been referred to our service will be able to participate in the 60 – 90 minute call with the first session entitled “Positive Parenting for children with a disability.” This is the first in a series of 3 seminars, the remaining two are “Helping your child reach their potential” and “Changing Problem Behaviour into Positive Behaviour”. These are suitable for parents of children 0-12. Access to the seminars is currently via our normal referral route. We will also be running 3 seminars for parents of primary school age children: The Power of Positive Parenting, Raising Confident, Competent Children, Raising Resilient Children. The 3 seminars for parents of teenagers are: Raising Responsible Teenagers, Raising Competent Teenagers, and Getting Teenagers Connected.

***\*Where families do not have access to technology we are able to provide some 1-1 support over the phone. Once we have delivered this first set of seminars we will be looking at feedback from families so that we can make sure we are delivering the sessions in a way that is helpful to families.***

Our youth and family teams are working on developing our summer holiday offer – we are disappointed not to be able to deliver our usual action-packed locality provision based in and around our centres for the families we are working with. However, we are developing our digital offer as well as pulling together activity packs for families – with some support from Leicestershire and Rutland Sports. We will continue to use our Facebook pages to share activities and resources, and we are planning to increase our use of videos to deliver family-based activities – for example we are currently working on some home-baking activities delivered over video. We will update you in a future briefing.

As part of #CarersWeek2020 we focused on recognising how amazing our young carers are. Those Practitioners who run the young carers groups have spent a week writing postcards to young carers to say thank you and we are planning a self-care kit which will be delivered to the young carers that we work with through groups across the County. We are still planning on rolling out groups digitally so that children can connect with their friends whilst we are unable to do this in the traditional form of face to face groups. We have trialled a Young Carers and a SEND group online and the feedback from children, young people and parents has been fantastic. The SEND group even had a goat join in the session last week! We are growing support online and in addition to the Local Offer and the Facebook pages for CFWS Localities, parents can now find us at the 'Leics. Youth & Justice' Team and we are hoping that children and young people will join us on Instagram, also 'Leics. Youth & Justice', where we will start to deliver themed sessions and learning opportunities. The IMPACT Team (street-based youth workers) are also back out in Districts across the County to support young people and reduce the likelihood of anti-social behaviour.

### **A great read with helpful tips and ideas ...**

Here is an attachment that has been produced for Special Guardians, it's an easy read magazine and I'm sure you will find some interesting articles in it – I did!



SGO NEWSLETTER  
09 - SUMMER 20.pdf

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Paula Sumner".

Paula Sumner

Asst Director, Education and SEND

**During this time of social distancing and isolation, please remember, you are not alone.**

**The right support for you or your loved ones is just a click or a phone call away.**

**For further support on where to turn if you're struggling, feeling lonely or worried about drug or alcohol use, go to**

**[www.startaconversation.co.uk](http://www.startaconversation.co.uk)**

**Remember to follow Government guidelines on social distancing at all times**