Matt Hancock

Jo Churchill was asking why can't schools buy their own - we are trying to reduce dependence on the central supply system and revert to wholesalers as much as is possible. But there must be a way of saying schools can access via LRFs if they have no alternative routes to get hold of any. I understand it's a tiny amount in case a child becomes symptomatic at school



(i)



Gavin Williamson

It was basically as a last resort so they can't use it as a reason not to open. All of them will but some will just want to say they can't so they have an excuse to avoid having to teach, what joys!!!

19:54

19:51

Matt Hancock

No problem. On that basis I'm sure we can sort



(i)

I've instructed SPADs to find a way through with yours - Emma Dean awaits at your service

Matt Hancock | Health Secretary We are giving big families all the suites and putting pop stars in the box rooms



19:29



Simon Case | Permanent Secretary at No 10

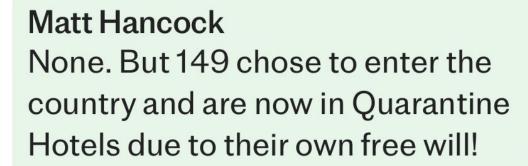
I just want to see some of the faces of people coming out of first class and into a premier inn shoe box

16 February, 2021



Simon Case

Any idea how many people we locked up in hotels yesterday?





10:02



Simon Case Hilarious



Boris Johnson | Prime Minister
How are we doing?
How are the numbers? Seem very
hard to squeeze
Am thinking hard about the 15 June.
At the moment we could do
Non-essential retail
Some more for families
A bit of outdoor hospitality
And announce that we can't do all
primary schools by July
But Slackie and lee still think the
whole package will be too far ahead of
public opinion

i

Matt Hancock | Health Secretary
Deaths yday (Friday) only 204. New
cases 1505. So same story: coming
down but slowly. R very close to one hence the slow decline.
So I think Slackie and Lee have a point.
I am very worried about a free-for-all
around non essential retail. The rules
BEIS put in place were far too slack.
But I accept we have to let them start
to come back.
I think it's too soon for outdoor



14:18

I think it's too soon for outdoor
hospitality - and they're not expecting
it until next month. There aren't even
guidelines in place, or the legal change.
Everyone's accepted there won't be
more on schools until Sept.
Then we could do a bit more for
families eg on camping & zoos.



Boris Johnson | Prime Minister

Nowcasting and Forecasting of the COVID-19 Pandemic

www.mrc-bus.cam.ac.uk

Carl Heneghan, who have been reflecting on yesterday. Heneghan refers us to the following nowcast of death data which demonstrates that *the death modelling you have been shown is already very wrong*:

https://www.mrc-bsu.cam.ac.uk/tackling-covid-19/nowcasting-and-forecasting-of-covid-19/
He has given it to the Telegraph for tomorrow already. I am trying to get to the bottom of the extent to which it affects capacity modelling.
If this illustrates anything, it is that red teams can work but need to be formally established. But do you want the disruption of us continuing the red team tomorrow?

The great Steve baker believes that the numbers of deaths have been exaggerated. It might be worth seeing what Heneghan is saying to telegraph.

I will keep working.

j



Simon Case | Permanent Secretary at No 10

23245 cases (UK); 162 deaths (UK) 20602 cases (Eng); 132 deaths (Eng)

16:54



Boris Johnson
Is that lower than last Sunday?

17:02



Simon Case

Higher than last Sunday, just: 19790 cases (UK); 151 deaths (UK) 16487 cases (Eng); 137 deaths



Boris Johnson Yup.

But England cases a bit lower. The attack is going to be that we blinked too soon

But all in all, with R just below 1, if we go ahead with non essential retail on 15 June, then we are sailing very close to the wind.

My view is the public are right and we need to hold our nerve.

15:45

If R goes above 1 - and that's what may happen if we go ahead on 15 June - then we are in all kinds of trouble



Boris Johnson

Are you saying delay retail beyond 15? I think that would be a bit of a blow for us all

17:03

Matt Hancock

I agree. I think we are locked in and should just do retail, as carefully as we can





Boris Johnson | Prime Minister
Folks I am about to asked about masks
in schools
Before we perform another u turn can I
have a view on whether they are
necessary

09:14

Matt Hancock | Health Secretary
Here is the medical advice:
I understand the concern for
secondary schools is because
teenagers are hanging around in school
corridors and hallways. Therefore, the
easier answer than responding with
face coverings is to say our guidance
references one way corridors,
ventilation, etc and to note that brief
encounters as children switch lessons
is usually a low risk (i.e. move your kids
on instead of introducing face mask
requirements).





Lee Cain | The PM's director of communications

High school pupils in Scotland to wear face coverings from 31 August www.bbc.co.uk

Considering Scotland has just confirmed it will I find it hard to believe we will hold the line. At a minimum I would give yourself flex and not commit to ruling it out.

Also why do we want to have the fight on not having masks in certain school settings? I've been away though so
Simon and others may have good reason Im unaware of

i



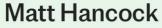
Simon Case | Cabinet Secretary
Lagree with Lee. Gavin in same place.
Position today, PM, is that you have asked your scientific and education advisers to look at this, in light of the WHO and Scottish evidence - and then go into Matt's stuff about masks not being as critical as other measures in schools

i

Unless Chris/Patrick etc are willing to go out and say WHO and Scots are wrong, I think some nervous parents will freak out about this happening in Scotland, but not in England.

i

09:21



Whatever the decision we should make it, communicate in an organised way, and stick to it





Simon Case

Remember, secondary schools kids already wearing masks on buses to school, in shops etc



Chris Whitty | Chief Medical Officer No strong reason against in corridors etc, and no very strong reasons for. The downsides are in the classroom because of the potential to interfere with teaching. 09:30

So agree not worth an argument.



Patrick Vallance | Government Chief Scientific Adviser

I think the advice is that face coverings should be worn indoors in situations where crowding cannot be avoided. I think I the policy already recommends them for transport to and from school for older children. This would then make logical sense to include for corridors or communal areas if crowding cannot be avoided (if it can then that is preferred). Not in the classroom

09:39



Boris Johnson

The trouble is that the current guidance specifically excludes schools

09:49

God knows why. 09:50

Wearing a face covering or face mask in schools or other education settings is not recommended. Face coverings may be beneficial for short periods indoors where there is a risk of close social contact with people you do not usually meet and where social distancing and other measures cannot be maintained, for example on public transport or in some shops. This does not apply to schools or other education settings. Schools and other education or childcare settings should therefore not require staff, children and learners to wear face coverings. 09:53

In order to allow schools to require face coverings in any part of the school we will now have to do a u turn

Matt Hancock

There's a reasonable way through this. The clinical advice is clear that face coverings should not be used in classrooms as they interfere with teaching. That's the ground on which we stand.

We have not advised blanket face mask use in corridors, because the clinical advice is clear that Covidsecure measures like one-way corridors and ventilation can suffice. Schools have been working hard on this basis.



However, where schools judge that one-way corridors and ventilation will not suffice to stop crowding, it is open to schools implementing a facecoverings policy outside of classrooms.

Matt Hancock | Health Secretary

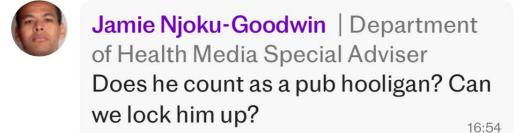


Nigel Farage appears to break coronavirus quarantine rules with pub photo after US trip

news.sky.com

We need to discuss urgently https://news.sky.com/story/nigelfarage-appears-to-break-quarantinerules-with-pub-photo-after-us-trip-12020998 16:28



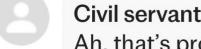


Civil servant Let me know if you need anything from PO. One for Priti? 17:04

> Matt Hancock Can you ask HO PO if they are considering it. Isn't enforcement for PHE?

Civil servant Ah, that's probably right. Let me check.





i

17:09



Jamie Njoku-Goodwin I've just spoken to HO spads

17:09

Sounds like we need to get PHE to do one of their "spot checks" and prove that he isn't at home





Civil servant

is pretty you you signed a designation order to allow border force to bring charges.



He's also asked if you're ok with data/tweet (done via email I believe).

17:18

is pretty sure you signed a designation order to allow border force to bring charges.



Matt Hancock

Can we pls clear this up - far better if it is a HO matter. I will need an answer for tomorrow morning. This case should be treated like any other.





Civil servant

So there's two elements. Enforcement, which is if you are caught in breach a police officer can tell you to go home or take you home. Separately there is a penalty for committing an offence by being in beach, which could be a prosecution brought by the CPS or a fixed penalty notice which would be DG Border Force or the CEO of the Criminal records office

(i)

The Health Protection Regulations 2020 legislation.gov.uk

http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2020/568/pdfs/uksi_20200568 _en.pdf

17:43

Part 3 is on enforcement. 17:43

just chasing up a cleared line for tomorrow.

(i

This is the designation order that went with the regs.

Matt Hancock Ok.That's v clear - thank you!



8

Civil servant

Image omitted

17:48

sending through lines cleared with HO.

 \bigcirc i



Helen Whately | Social Care Minister Wish we could loosen on children under 12 on rule of 6 for tier 1.

15:46

It would make such a difference for families and there isn't a robust rationale for it. Now is a really good chance to show we have listened. (Lots of MPs were pushing on this during last weeks' debates)

16:54

Matt Hancock | Health Secretary They don't want to go there on this



17:40



Helen Whately
Are we they?!

17:4C

Matt Hancock
As in No10. Also on curfew - they don't want to shift an inch





Helen Whately | Social Care Minister

Care Homes testing update; on track for 6 June deadline to make tests available to all older-age care homes. Tests delivered to over 8000 care homes. The challenge is 642 who have yet to register. Outbound calling has identified 178 not in operation, 346 saying 'already tested via pillar 1' and 98 do not want a test. Team is working on getting the latter 2 categories signed up, enlisting DpHs, DASSs and then CQC.

Matt Hancock | Health Secretary
Well done. What happened to the 178
not in operation?!





Helen Whately

The info I have is 'CQC registered but not in operation'. Will find out. (The call focus was on how to get the recalcitrant ones that are in operation tested!)

Matt Hancock yes aboslutely - esp the 98



Helen Whately

(esp the 10 in where the dph is worried testing will reveal too many asymptomatic staff • - and are very much on the case there)

Matt Hancock take a good look as Ashford and East Kent too





Helen Whately
My patch...will do

Matt Hancock | Health Secretary I need to call in a favour tmrw



I currently have 22,000 spare slots tomorrow at my drive thrus. Hence I've extended eligibility today. Demand just isnt there. This is obvs good news about spread of virus. But hard for my target

So I really could do with a testing splash

23:18

Can we make this happen?

23:18



George Osborne | Editor of the Evening Standard

Yes - of course - all you need to do tomorrow is give some exclusive words to the Standard and I'll tell the team to splash it

You're almost there

23:31

Send the words to me by 8am tomorrow

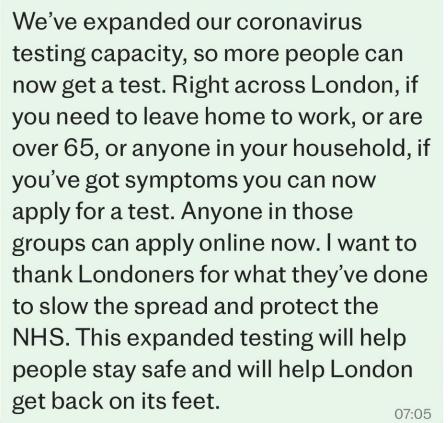
23:31

Message to London?

23:32

Get someone to brief Joe Murphy too

Matt Hancock



Thank you! Quote 👆



07:07

I've also sent to Joe

07:07



George Osborne Great

08:00

Matt Hancock

Now I'll find out how strong the bonds of loyalty are! 10:02



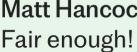


George Osborne

You'll make the front but not as big as 10 mins ago! 10:05

Matt Hancock







George Osborne And you'll like the editorial

10:06

Well done

10:06

Matt Hancock
I WANT TO HIT MY TARGET!



10:06



George Osborne I gathered