

## HICovid19 digest (16 Dec 21)

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The numbers haven't changed much locally. 63 new infections in the 7 days to 10 Dec 21 (65 two weeks previously) and 522 per 100,000 people (previously 539) but we know that the national figure went to the highest level reported, 78,610 new daily cases, earlier this week. Thank you very much Omicron.

We know that vaccinations are a part of fighting this surge and the figures reported on 14 Dec 21 say that only 76.2% of people in Histon & Impington have had two doses and just 38% have had a booster. The national numbers are 81.5% and 43% respectively so we could do better. Please [sign up and get your jabs now](#).

We are now on plan B which means face coverings in all public indoor settings, working from home (if possible) and Covid passports for large events.

The press conference on Wednesday was sobering and it was down to Professor Whitty to spell it out in simple but stark terms how he thinks we should approach Xmas. Don't 'cancel Xmas' but scale back the events. [Meet fewer people and avoid larger gatherings](#), especially indoor ones.

We are fortunate in Histon & Impington. There is good compliance when it comes to using face coverings and by and large social distancing is observed. Our cafes and restaurants have outside facilities and several continue to practice the Covid measures of early in the year. They can be visited with confidence.

The Covid alert level was increased to 4 at the beginning of the week. Nobody knows when it is likely to be go down again so until then we've got to be patient, look after our fellow people and follow the rules: [get a jab, wear a face covering and avoid unnecessary contacts](#).

The [guidance](#) from the NHS is unchanged.

- get vaccinated against COVID-19 – everyone aged 12 and over can [book vaccination appointments](#) now
- meet people outside if possible
- open doors and windows to let in fresh air if meeting people inside
- limit the number of people you meet and avoid crowded places
- wear a face covering in shops, on public transport and when it's hard to stay away from other people (particularly indoors or in crowded places)
- wash your hands with soap and water or use hand sanitiser regularly throughout the day

Finally: if you are, or you know somebody who is, having difficulty with life because of Covid please contact your street co-ordinator or call the HICOVID19 helpline on 01223 320420.