**To: all providers and commissioners of care and/or support for people with Down’s Syndrome; and residential education settings for people with Down’s Syndrome**

**RE: addition of Downs Syndrome to the Clinically Extremely Vulnerable (CEV) list**

Dear colleague,

We are writing to inform you of the addition of people over the age of 18 with Downs Syndrome to the Clinically Extremely Vulnerable (CEV) list. This follows a decision made by Chief Medical Officers, informed by new data.

The attached Frequently Asked Question document sets out why people with Down’s syndrome have been added to the list. An easy-read version is also attached.

The updated guidance for Clinically Extremely Vulnerable people can be found [here](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19) and an easy-read version will be published shortly. The easy read version of the letter which Clinically Extremely Vulnerable people will receive from their GP is attached.

**What you need to do now**

This letter is to inform you of the addition of people with Down’s Syndrome to the SPL, to enable you to **support individuals to** **follow the updated advice for this group**.

People who are on the SPL are advised to follow the guidance for the clinically extremely vulnerable from Thursday 5th November.

People who are Clinically Extremely Vulnerable should receive a letter from their GP confirming they have been added to the Shielding Patient List (SPL). This letter will also confirm how to access support, such as access to medicine and groceries; and encourage people to book their flu vaccination, and their annual health check.

If a person with Down’s Syndrome who you care for has **not yet received** a letter from their GP, they are recommended to follow the guidance regardless, and await a letter from their GP surgery.

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