

# Primrose Hill Primary School

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[www.primrosehill.camden.sch.uk](http://www.primrosehill.camden.sch.uk)



Thursday 24th February 2021

## INFORMATION FOR RETURNING TO SCHOOL

Dear Parents & Carers,

I hope you are all well and keeping safe. I am sure you will have heard the news that **all schools are opening on Monday 8th March**. I sent you a video on Tuesday with one important detail in our reopening: **School will be closed on Friday 5th March** to allow us to prepare and ensure the school is ready to safely welcome back all the children- please see below for more information on this.

I know that there will be mixed feelings about this and many anxieties - as always all the staff at PH are working tirelessly to ensure we alleviate these worries and plan a safe return for all. I am personally delighted to be opening again, I have missed you all and seeing the children each day.

Below is some important information about our reopening, some details will still need to be planned and I will continue to update you.

### Reducing & Managing Risk

As mentioned, all staff will be in school on Friday 5th March to ensure it is as safe as it can be. You can find our full Risk Assessment on our website although below are **some key updated and new safety provisions**:

- All visitors and staff, including meal time supervisors and kitchen staff, will wear masks in communal areas and in the dining hall
- Rooms are ventilated each morning and throughout the day. Teachers will be trying to get outside more or have extended play, to vent their classroom in between lessons
- Continued emphasis on sanitising and washing of hands throughout the day, but especially before eating, clearing of surfaces and equipment throughout the day
- Continued staggered play and lunch times
- Forward facing desks in Y2-Y6; **Y1 and EYFS will have a specific Risk Assessment**, as they are our youngest children and there is specific guidance about EYFS. This information will be included in the Y1 & EYFS letters that will be sent out next week.

### Year Groups & Bubbles

Each Year Group will continue to form a bubble, allowing them to have set entry and exit times and a shared morning play and lunch time play (albeit in different areas of the playground). For the majority of the time, each individual 'class' will be a smaller bubble and have their own class sessions, PE and Music sessions etc. Our music teacher, Tom and PE coaches, Jordan & Dean, will continue to work across the school but will maintain a 2m distance from all children and staff in each bubble.

Acting Head Teacher: Mireille Alwan

We will continue to report any positive cases of COVID that are reported to the school. As always, we will always assess the risk and liaise with Public Health England for each specific positive case. Bubbles will be closed if the risk to the bubble has been assessed.

### **Staggered Start & End of the Day**

We appreciate that arrangements such as staggered start and end of the day times may be inconvenient for you as a family if you have more than one child to drop off or collect, but at the moment it *remains a necessary measure*. Ultimately these procedures have been put in place to keep everyone safe and to keep the school running smoothly, and we appreciate your support with this.

More information around specific timings and entry / collection points will be shared next week.

### **Travelling & Following Government Laws**

To continue to protect our community, we need to ensure all families who may have been stuck abroad or had to travel for other emergencies, have followed the Government Guidelines. These outline all members of your family need to *isolate for 10 days and take 2 COVID Tests, one on your 2nd day and then again on your 8th day for each member of your family who has been abroad.*

I have read reports that they have been fining families up to £10,000 for breaking these laws, so please make sure you read them carefully and do call us if you need any help:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/how-to-quarantine-when-you-arrive-in-england>

Before your child/ren can return back to school, **you will need to provide us with:**

- **your return date ticket evidence to show you have isolated for 10 days**

Please email this information when you receive it to [admin@primrosehill.camden.sch.uk](mailto:admin@primrosehill.camden.sch.uk)

### **Project Day - Friday 5th March SCHOOL IS CLOSED**

All classes will get sent a Project Day PDF on Thursday 4th March at 3pm, so they can have a look at it and plan for the next day. This will be an 'offline' and 'creative' day for children and may link to us returning to school.

We will invite a small number of children to school from 11:30-12:30pm on Friday 5th March - those who either did not return after lockdown or those we feel will benefit for a brief induction visit. One of your child's team will contact you next week to invite your child.

### **Attendance & Reporting Absence**

The Government expectation is that all children\* should return to school on Monday 8th March, unless they are shielding or have been advised to stay at home. Attendance will be statutory. This will be five daily sessions as normal.

We expect all children to return to school. The Government has given authorisation to issue fixed penalty fines for families who do not return, but we do not wish to do this. We would prefer to work directly to find a way forward than penalise you. Communication will be key to this so please speak to

*Acting Head Teacher: Mireille Alwan*

one of us about any issues., we are here to help and understand that many families will have anxieties around returning. Please ask to speak to myself or one of SLT if you have any specific questions around attendance.

\*Children who have received a **shielding letter** from a medical professional or Public Health England will need to stay at home until at least the end of March. We will be supporting remote learning for these children, but will need to see a copy of the letter. Please contact us immediately if this pertains to your child.

Office contact details: [0207 772 8500](tel:02077728500) or email [admin@primrosehill.camden.sch.uk](mailto:admin@primrosehill.camden.sch.uk)

## Reminders of Reporting COVID

It is essential that you inform us about any positive Covid cases or even Covid symptoms of anyone in your household. From Monday 8th March, please call the school on: 0207 722 8500 or email [admin@primrosehill.camden.sch.uk](mailto:admin@primrosehill.camden.sch.uk) to report any COVID absence or positive tests. Below is a reminder of the 3 main Covid 19 symptoms:

- **a high temperature** – *this means you or your child feels hot to touch on their chest or back (you do not need to measure their temperature, but if your child's temperature is over 38 degrees, this qualifies as a high temperature IN ADDITION to them feeling hot to touch on their chest or back)*  
*Please always call 111 or your GP for further guidelines around temperatures, as they will be able to advise you if you should be tested. If they tell you that you have to be tested, then you need to call 119 to arrange this.*
- **a new, continuous cough** – *this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you or your child usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)*
- **a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** – *this means you've noticed you or your child cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal*
- **IF ANYONE IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD DEVELOPS ANY OF THE 3 SYMPTOMS, YOUR WHOLE HOUSEHOLD HAS TO ISOLATE.** You need to arrange testing immediately - please call the school if you have any problems with arranging a test.
- **IF SOMEONE TESTS POSITIVE - ALL MEMBERS** of your household AND anyone the positive case has had close contact with **MUST** isolate for 10 days from last contact- this may include your support / childcare bubble
- If you have had to have someone in your household tested, please email evidence of your tests results- both positive and negative. Your child/ren will not be able to return to school until evidence of a negative test has been obtained and received.

I know you will have many questions around our reopening and I will continue to update you via letters, our school newsletter published on our [Website](#) and also via our YouTube Channel [Primrose Hill Primary School](#).

I am really looking forward to seeing you and your child/ren soon. I know this will be another challenge that we will face together, a collective effort in ensuring we are all as safe as possible!

Kind regards,

Mireille Alwan  
Acting Head Teacher

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