

Back to school

Updated: March 2021



From 8 March, schools and nurseries will safely reopen and we're really looking forward to welcoming back all our children. However, we know that some people have concerns about what this might mean.

Schools have been carefully following local and national public health advice to prepare for the return of all children and to ensure each school is safe. This includes regular rapid testing of school staff and secondary and special school pupils to identify those who may have COVID-19 but no symptoms.

Children don't spread coronavirus more than adults. For most people – and especially children – if they do catch the virus, the symptoms will be mild.



Stay safe

We all need to work together to make sure we keep our schools safe, so please remember to:

- Keep washing your hands
- Socially distance and wear face coverings where possible, especially at the school entrance during dropping off and picking up times (your school will let you know what plans are in place)
- Stay at home if you or your child (or someone you live with) have symptoms and get tested
 - Tests can be booked online at: nhs.uk/coronavirus or by calling **119**
 - You can also find information and advice about testing, as well as test and trace at nhs.uk/coronavirus

We know that about one in three people with COVID-19 don't have any symptoms, but can still pass the virus on.

The Council is offering free rapid COVID tests for anyone who has to leave home to go to work and has no symptoms. Tests can be booked online at: camden.gov.uk/nhs-test-and-trace

If you are an adult (over 16) member of a household, childcare bubble or support bubble of staff or a pupil you can get a twice-weekly test if you are **asymptomatic**. These will be available:

- at one of the seven community test sites in Camden. Book online: camden.gov.uk/rapidtest or call **020 7974 4444 (option 9)**
- by booking a home test-kit for pick-up from the NHS test centres open at Kingsgate and Ramsay Hall, in Camden, from 1.30pm to 7.30pm every day.

Anyone with a positive result should start to self-isolate straight away along with everyone in their household.

Keep healthy

Children should walk, cycle or scoot to school if they can, rather than taking public transport. Children aged 11 and over who take public transport should wear a face covering.

Vaccinations protect you and your family from many other infectious diseases. Speak to your GP to make sure all your child's vaccinations are up-to-date.

If you are eligible, please accept the offer of the COVID-19 vaccine when you are contacted.

Help and support is available

You can contact your school with any questions. You can also organise a private meeting with your School Nurse who can speak to you about any concerns you may have about coronavirus. For example, if you are worried about older relatives who live with you.

For School Nurses, please email camdenschoolnurses@nhs.net or call **020 3317 2304**.

If you're worried about self-isolating for whatever reason, get in touch with Camden Council who can help you – **020 7974 4444 (option 9)** or visit camden.gov.uk/support-for-individuals

Translated material will be available from your school.

**COVID SYMPTOMS?
GET TESTED NOW.**

nhs.uk/coronavirus OR CALL 119

Become a COVID-19 Health Champion

Help to share the latest advice and guidance about COVID-19 with your family, friends and other community members in Camden or Islington.

To sign-up, [complete this form](#)

If you've got questions, email us at CHC@islington.gov.uk