



OLD PALACE PRIMARY SCHOOL



St Leonard's Street, Bow, London, E3 3BT ● Tel: 020 8980 3020
Email: admin@oldpalace.towerhamlets.sch.uk ● Website: www.oldpalaceprimary.co.uk



7th December 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are writing to inform you that today we were notified that pupil in Year 3 and a member of staff in Reception have also received a positive test result for COVID-19. We know you will find this concerning but we are continuing to monitor the situation and are working closely with Public Health England (PHE). This letter is to inform you of the current situation and provide advice on how to support your child

Both the Year 3 child, and the member of staff, were last in school on Friday 4th December. PHE have advised that we should close the Year 3 and Reception bubbles and we have been in contact with these families to inform them that their child must stay at home for 14 days and should not return until the school re-opens after the Christmas break on Tuesday 5th January.

Class 1D is also closed, but the children can return on Tuesday 15th December, as the staff member who tested positive in this year group, was last in school on Monday 30th November.

We have asked PHE to consider whether we need to close the whole school. They have advised us that 1N, Year 2, 4, 5 & 6 should remain open and that children in these classes should continue to attend as normal if they remain well, even if they have a sibling in one of the closed classes.

Please rest assured that this is a precautionary measure and the school continues to have stringent infection controls in place, such as frequent hand washing, 'Catch it, Bin It, Kill It', increased ventilation, and the use of staggered breaks/ lunchtimes/ drop offs and 'year group bubbles' to minimize contact.

We provide regular health & safety reminders to staff and request that all our families and staff follow the Tier 2 restriction currently in place in London, to allow us to keep each other safe.

We apologise for contacting you again so soon, but we believe it is important to share information with our families, to maintain trust. We thank you for your understanding and continued support. Below we have included the guidance provided by PHE, which has been shared previously.

Yours sincerely,

Mr G. Palmer
Headteacher



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School Business Manager: Michele Walsham



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What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID 19

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, they must not come to school and should remain at home for at least **10 days** from the date when their symptoms appeared. Anyone with symptoms will be eligible for testing and this can be arranged via <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test> or by calling 119.

All other household members who remain well, must stay at home and not leave the house for 14 days. This includes anyone in your 'Support Bubble'.

Further information is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

The 14-day period starts from the day when the first person in the house became ill.

Household members should not go to work, school or public areas and exercise should be taken within the home.

If you require help with buying groceries, other shopping or picking up medication, or walking a dog, you should ask friends or family. Alternatively, you can order your shopping online and medication by phone or online.

Household members staying at home for 14 days will greatly reduce the overall amount of infection the household could pass on to others in the community.

If you are able, move any vulnerable individuals (such as the elderly and those with underlying health conditions) out of your home, to stay with friends or family for the duration of the home isolation period.

Symptoms of COVID 19

The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of:

- new continuous cough and/or
- high temperature (37.8C or above)
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell

For most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

If your child does develop symptoms, you can seek advice from the nhs.uk website at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/>. If you are concerned about your child's symptoms, or they are worsening you can seek advice from NHS 111 at <https://111.nhs.uk/> or by phoning 111.



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How to stop COVID-19 spreading

There are things you can do to help reduce the risk of you and anyone you live with catching the virus:

Remember - 'Hands. Face. Space.':

- **hands** – wash your hands regularly, including as soon as you get home, for 20 seconds
- **face** – wear a face covering in indoor settings where social distancing may be difficult, and where you will come into contact with people you do not normally meet
- **face** - face- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze; put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards
- **space** – stay 2 metres apart from people you do not live with where possible, or 1 metre with extra precautions in place (such as wearing face coverings or increasing ventilation indoors)



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