

# OLD PALACE PRIMARY SCHOOL



St Leonard's Street, Bow, London, E3 3BT • Tel: 020 8980 3020  
Email: [admin@oldpalace.towerhamlets.sch.uk](mailto:admin@oldpalace.towerhamlets.sch.uk) • Website: [www.oldpalaceprimary.co.uk](http://www.oldpalaceprimary.co.uk)



12<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Dear Parents/ Carers,

The school will close today for the half term break.

The government has announced that schools in England will not open before 8<sup>th</sup> March. Therefore remote learning and onsite provision for key worker and vulnerable pupils will resume on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February. The timetable, groups and log in details for remote learning sessions will remain the same. The Prime Minister is due to make a statement on 22<sup>nd</sup> February on when schools can open.

Some half term homework has been set should families wish to use this. For Reception pupils this can be found on the 'Learning at Home' section of the school website, for all other year groups it is on Google Classroom.

The Department for Education set out an ambitious programme for remote learning. Old Palace rose to the challenge and we have set high expectations for our pupils. In light of this, we would like to congratulate all the parents on the amazing job that they have been doing supporting our remote learning programme at home, on top of all the other pressures that trying to survive this pandemic has brought. The testing that we completed in September and December showed that the children were making really good progress at catching up on the learning that they had missed last year and the school has a great reputation for ensuring that our pupils achieve their full potential. Therefore if you are struggling with supporting remote learning - please do not worry – just do your best! The most important thing is to keep encouraging the children to read and to continue to show them that they are loved and cared for. Any dips in learning can be fixed, break downs in relationships are much more difficult to repair. So please take a moment to celebrate all you have achieved with your child/ren this half term and then enjoy some family time together (away from Zoom!) over half term week. For those who like to stay active, you may like to try the home fitness programme which can be found at [Our Parks](#).

We would also like to thank all the parents who have joined our 'coffee morning' sessions, which have included workshops on Children's Mental Health Week and Safer Internet Week – we hope you found them useful. You may also be interested in the following online workshops provided by The Healthy Lives Team: 'Responding to worries and fears: Covid and beyond' on Wednesday 17 February, 2 - 3pm and 'Let's play! The importance of play across the age range' on Wednesday 3 March, 2 – 3pm. These can be book by emailing [Sultana Begum](#). More general advice continues to be provided at [support](#) and all the latest information from the council can be found at [www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/coronavirus). If you are in need of emergency help, you can call 020 7364 3030 (Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm) or visit [this page](#) for emergency contact details, including the police, utility companies, housing associations, and more.

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We appreciate that national lockdown restriction have now been in place in for what seems like a very long time, but we urge our families and staff to continue to follow the guidance. The more we do this, the more rates of transmission will fall and the greater the chance that schools will be able to reopen. Remember you must **stay at home** if possible, and at present it is **against the law to meet socially with family or friends indoors unless they are part of your household or support bubble**. You can only form a support bubble with another household if:

- you live by yourself – even if carers visit you to provide support
- you are the only adult in your household who does not need continuous care as a result of a disability
- your household includes a child who is under the age of one or was under that age on 2 Dec 2020
- your household includes a child with a disability who requires continuous care and is under the age of 5, or was under that age on 2 December 2020
- you are aged 16 or 17 living with others of the same age and without any adults
- you are a single adult living with one or more children who are under the age of 18 or were under that age on 12 June 2020
- You should not form a support bubble with a household that is part of another support bubble.

At the end of this letter, we have provided full details of the all restrictions currently in place, together with a reminder of the advice from Public Health England on the symptoms of COVID-19 and what to do if you develop these.

On a positive note the vaccine programme is now well underway in Tower Hamlets. Should you have concerns about receiving the vaccine, the council will be hosting an online event on Wednesday 17 February (7pm to 8pm), where residents can ask the mayor and local health experts questions about the Covid-19 vaccine. You can register for the event online [here](#) and submit your questions in advance. All submitted questions will be publish after the event.

Finally, may I once again thank you for your continued support. Please keep safe and we look forward to seeing all our pupils back online on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February.

Yours sincerely,

Mr G Palmer  
**Headteacher**





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HM Government



## CORONAVIRUS TIER 4

# STAY AT HOME

[gov.uk/coronavirus](https://gov.uk/coronavirus)

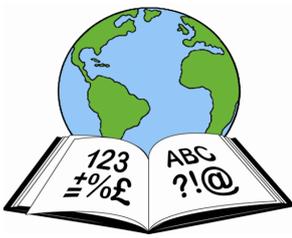
**Around 1 in 3 people with Covid-19 have no symptoms** so will be spreading the virus without realising. We must all take action to protect each other and our hospital capacity.

<b>MEETING FRIENDS AND FAMILY</b> <p>No household mixing, aside from support bubbles and two people meeting in public outdoor spaces.</p>	<b>BARS, PUBS AND RESTAURANTS</b> <p>Hospitality closed, aside from sales by takeaway, drive-through or delivery.</p>	<b>RETAIL</b> <p><b>Essential shops can open.</b> Non-essential retail must close and can only open for click-and-collect and delivery.</p>	<b>WORK AND BUSINESS</b> <p>Everyone must work from home unless they are unable to do so.</p>
<b>EDUCATION</b> <p><b>Early years settings, schools, colleges and universities open during term time.</b> Registered childcare, other supervised activities for childcare purposes, and childcare bubbles permitted</p>	<b>INDOOR LEISURE</b> <p>Closed.</p>	<b>ACCOMMODATION</b> <p>Closed (with limited exceptions)</p>	<b>PERSONAL CARE</b> <p>Closed.</p>
<b>OVERNIGHT STAYS</b> <p>You must not stay overnight away from home. Limited exceptions apply.</p>	<b>WEDDINGS AND FUNERALS</b> <p>Funerals of up to 30 people permitted. Wakes and other linked ceremonial events can continue in a group of up to six. Weddings of up to six can continue in exceptional circumstances.</p>	<b>ENTERTAINMENT</b> <p>Indoor entertainment closed. Some outdoor attractions may remain open.</p>	<b>PLACES OF WORSHIP</b> <p>Open for private prayer and communal worship, but cannot interact with anyone outside household or support bubble.</p>
<b>TRAVELLING</b> <p>You must stay at home and only travel for work, education or other legally permitted reasons. If you must travel, you should stay local, and reduce the number of journeys you make. You must not leave a Tier 4 area or stay overnight away from home. Residents in Tiers 1 - 3 should not enter Tier 4 areas. Do not travel abroad if you live in a Tier 4 area unless an exemption applies.</p>	<b>EXERCISE</b> <p>You can leave your home to exercise by yourself, with your household or support bubble, or with one person from another household. Outdoor sport allowed but gatherings limit applies except for youth and disabled sport.</p>	<b>RESIDENTIAL CARE</b> <p>You can visit relatives in care homes with COVID-secure arrangements such as substantial screens, visiting pods, and window visits.</p>	<b>CLINICALLY EXTREMELY VULNERABLE</b> <p>The Clinically Extremely Vulnerable are advised to stay at home as much as possible, except to go outdoors for exercise or to attend health appointments.</p>

For support and more information visit:  
[gov.uk/coronavirus](https://gov.uk/coronavirus)



Headteacher: Mr G. Palmer BA (Hons)  
 School Business Manager: Michele Walsham



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## 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) and/or
- a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

More information can be found at: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/> .

If you suspect that you or a member of your household has symptoms, you can seek advice from NHS 111 at <https://111.nhs.uk/> or by phoning 111.

## How to stop COVID-19 spreading

There are things you can do to help reduce the risk to 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- 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)

## What to do if you or a member of your household develops symptoms of COVID 19

Please book a test via <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test> or by calling 119 .

The person with symptoms, and all members of their household, must remain at home for at least 10 days.

The 10 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.

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

Please see the link to the PHE 'Stay at Home' Guidance:

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