



Heath View, East Finchley, London N2 0QY

Telephone: 020 8444 6711

Email: info@oaklodeschool.org

Web: www.oaklodeschool.org

Headteacher: Lynda Walker MA

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Dear Parents/Carers,

COVID 19 Headteacher Update

We have had another confirmed case of COVID today and have had to send home the students who travel on the same school bus to self-isolate for 14 days. If any of these students display symptoms we have asked parents to arrange a test for them and let us know the result as soon as possible. This means that we may have to send more students home should there be a positive test result.

We are following the public health guidelines and have been advised that we only need to ask staff and students to self-isolate if they have been in close contact with a person who has tested positive. This generally means within 1 metre but would also apply to students travelling on school transport where it is impossible to socially distance.

We are not allowed to disclose the personal details of anyone who may have a positive test result but please be assured that we are doing all we can to make sure that school remains open for as many students as possible.

I have repeated the advice that I wrote in my last update at the end of this letter for quick reference.

Please contact the school if you have any concerns.

I do hope that you all continue to remain healthy and safe.

Best Wishes

Lynda Walker, Headteacher

What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID 19:

- If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, they should remain at home for at least 10 days from the date when their symptoms appeared.
- All other household members who remain well must stay at home and not leave the house for 14 days.
- 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.
- 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

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

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

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

If your child or anyone in the household does develop symptoms, you can seek advice from NHS 111 at: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/> or by phoning 111.

I have listed below other occasions where we may need to send a child home.

- 1) If your child has been in close contact with a member of staff or a student in their 'bubble' who has tested positive (which may be their class group/key stage or students on the same bus route.) In this instance your child will need to self-isolate for 14 days from the last time they had contact with the positive case. They do not need to be tested unless they themselves start to display symptoms in which case you should arrange for a test as soon as possible.
- 2) If your child displays symptoms of COVID whilst in school, you will be asked to collect them, as transport will not bring them home. You will need to arrange for them to have a test as soon as possible and they must remain at home until they receive a negative test result. If the result is positive, please contact us as soon as possible so we can ensure that everyone they have been in close contact with is asked to self-isolate.
- 3) If we do not have enough staff in a particular class to ensure the health and safety of the students. This may be because staff members are having to self-isolate because of contact with someone outside of school or because of their own child care responsibilities.

If any member of your household is displaying symptoms please do not send your child to school unless you have received a negative test result for them as this could put staff and other students at risk.