



Kentish Town CE Primary School Newsletter

Love — Equality — Compassion
Excellent Teaching, Excellent Effort, Excellent Progress:
Every Child, Every Lesson, Every Day

www.kentishtown.camden.sch.uk

@kentishTownCE

Issue 11:8th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a first week we have all had!

As you will be aware, schools are closed to most children until at least half term in February 2021. The government will decide whether schools can reopen for the second half of the spring term. As soon as I know about this then I will let you know. I think you all know that I and the staff would much prefer for our school to be safe and for all adults and children to return to something like normal school life. In the meantime we soldier on with windows and doors open for ventilation: it's freezing in school!

Children with an Education Health Care Plan are expected to attend school each day. If you wish to keep your child at home then you must ensure your child is engaging with the online learning and the zoom calls.

There are also a number of other officially "vulnerable" children who are expected to be in school—Grant will have contacted you if you are one of these.

Children of Critical Workers

I have written to you separately about this. The number of places is governed by our risk assessment and child/staff ratios.

In School Provision

We are offering an EYFS Bubble with Acorns and Oak classes. All other classes are being kept separate in order to minimise the spread of the more infectious strain of the virus. Where necessary (due to staff isolating or ill) we may have to combine Bubbles. Lunch and playtimes are staggered and we are not currently offering Breakfast or Activity Clubs.

Chromebooks

We have a number of these laptop devices in school. Call the office or email if your child/ren need one. We can loan one to you (we will need it back when school reopens). No child needs to be struggling with mobile phones. All children need to be joining Zoom calls with their teachers and assemblies daily. Please email admin@kentishtown.camden.sch.uk if you need a device. We will be prioritising children who are not able to come in to school currently.

Children who are Entitled to Free School Meals

We are looking at a way to get vouchers to you. There is no national scheme at present and most families did not want hampers last time school was closed. We will be in touch next week. Children in school will obviously have access to the hot meals offer from Nikki, our cook.

Feedback

Please feel free to offer us feedback on our offer. Please remember that staff are working incredibly hard, in the midst of a pandemic. If there is something that is working well then please let us know and if there is something that could be improved further then please also let us know. Feedback to: admin@kentishtown.camden.sch.uk. We will not respond to all comments but we will consider them.

Wishing you all a restful weekend. Please take care of yourselves and your families.

Best wishes,

James Humphries - Headteacher



Kentish Town Community Centre Newsletter January 2021

Welcome to the first KTCC Newsletter of 2021!

I think we can all agree that 2020 was a difficult year for us all. Before we write it off entirely, I wanted to share with you all some of the great things my team and you, our members and users had achieved this year.

My highlights of 2020 included:

The launch of the Kentish Town Arts Club way back in January 2020. Run entirely by volunteers, we hope to see these in-house music nights return soon.



The Youth Service receiving the London Youth Gold in July. A phenomenal achievement, especially in a lockdown!

2020 has been a tough year for our community. As a small team we have achieved a lot:

330 people now KTCC members
107 regular food bank clients
132 older people connected to our Older Peoples Project
42 young people actively participating in our Youth Service.

Not bad for a team of just 13 and that includes 3 amazing volunteers. #Legends

www.ktcc.org.uk

The launch of the Food Hub, a collective term for all the wonderful food projects we have launched this year. These projects include KTCooks, The Recipe Club and of course an extension of The Pantry (our foodbank). A huge thanks to all our foodbank users who have been so patient with us as we try new ideas. We are committed to the principles of dignity and respect in all our Food Hub projects.



The Older Peoples Project continued from September as an in-person service. We took the bold move to run small 'support groups' for our older people, who were phenomenal and a joy to be around.

Finally, in 2020 we made some great friends. New people used our services, and we were very lucky to work with our local school, The Caversham GP practice Wellcome Trust, Murphys and Sons (Builders) and ASOS.

A huge thanks to everyone for their support in 2020. See over the page for more details about our plans for 2021.

Stay Happy and Safe
Sarah Hoyle,
Centre Manager, Kentish Town Community Centre
sarah@ktcc.org.uk



Find us online at www.ktcc.org.uk or call us 0207 482 3212
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In 2021 we are planning on:

A) Giving local people a stronger voice.

This ranges from ESOL lessons for people who do not speak any English through to supporting our local parents to get their voices heard on issues relating to feeding a family on a low income alongside creating a platform for local creatives and entrepreneurs



B) Developing our Food Hub

The Food Hub is our innovative approach to food, by trialling and testing new ways for people to access food and develop their food knowledge. In 2021 we will start growing our own food (mainly herbs) and will be working with our friends from Kentish Town City Farm and the Caversham GP Practice

C) Supporting better Mental Health

We are looking at ways to help local people 'heal' after a very tough 2020. Ideas include art and music projects alongside working in collaboration with The Recovery College as we did in 2019. More details will be available on our website : ktcc.org.uk and on our social media platforms

D) Collaborating with our local partners.

In 2020 we made some great friends and in 2021 we intend on developing these partnerships further. We are committed to creating space for people to explore and test new ideas that benefit our community.



This work will run alongside the delivery of existing work, our Youth Service and Older Peoples Project and The Kentish Town Arts Club. We also hope to welcome back our classes as soon as the lockdown eases. Last year people hired our space to run Martial Arts, Yoga and Pilates classes and the very popular under 5s sessions. If you would like to book space to run a class in the Spring of 2021 please contact Tom on bookings@ktcc.org.uk

Coronavirus: Weekly update from Camden Council

For the latest information and support from Camden Council and its partners, including updates to services:








- Visit camden.gov.uk/coronavirus – includes information in different languages
- Check the Council's news pages at news.camden.gov.uk
- Follow Twitter @CamdenCouncil and Facebook facebook.com/LBCamden
- Speak to someone at the Council directly by calling 020 7974 4444 (option 9).

 **SIGN UP** to the Council's coronavirus newsletter at camden.gov.uk/coronavirus-updates

Stay home, save lives






A national lockdown was announced on 4 January 2021 to control the spread of coronavirus. These restrictions are due to last until at least mid-February. For more information, go to gov.uk/coronavirus

-  Stay at home unless you're leaving the house for a permitted reason, in which case, stay local
-  Only leave the house to exercise once a day alone, or with people you live with, those in your support bubble or one person from another household
-  You must not socialise indoors or outdoors with anyone you don't live with or are not in a support bubble with
-  You must work from home if you can
-  You must only travel for a permitted reason and walk or cycle where possible
-  If you are clinically extremely vulnerable you should only go out for medical appointments, exercise or if it is essential. You should not attend work
-  Schools will remain closed until February half-term, except for vulnerable children and children of key workers

A number of grants and financial support packages are available to help businesses affected by the lockdown. More information will be available on the Government website. You can also visit Camden Council's webpages for advice and support at camden.gov.uk/coronavirus

Follow public health advice to prevent you catching or passing on coronavirus

-  Wear a face covering in indoor public spaces and busy outdoor spaces, unless you're exempt
-  Wash your hands regularly
-  Keep 2 metres apart from people you don't live with

Contact Camden Council if you need support

If you're worried about anything – including self-isolating, your housing situation, accessing a business grant, your finances, home-schooling your children or your mental health – please contact the Council for advice and support. Speak to someone on 020 7974 4444 (option 9) or find out more at camden.gov.uk/coronavirus






The news of a lockdown is heartbreaking for so many residents already struggling. Despite the fatigue we all feel, we must continue to follow public health advice to save lives and protect each other. The last year saw so much pain but it also saw extraordinary generosity and community spirit. I know Camden will come together again to get us through a difficult winter.

My clear and heartfelt message to Camden residents is to please stay at home wherever possible. Coronavirus cases are very high in Camden so residents have a much higher risk of catching it than previously. This is a dangerous situation that requires every one of us to play a part – we continue to see rising infection levels and hospitalisations in London putting the NHS under huge strain.

Another lockdown will bring great anxiety for many residents. I can assure you that Camden and our communities are here to support you through this at this difficult time. We will also do everything in our power to support the vaccine rollout, which gives us real hope for much brighter times in the months ahead. Thank you to all Camden residents who are making sacrifices to stop the spread of the virus and to every single person on the front line working to keep us safe.

Councillor Georgia Gould, Leader of Camden Council

Got symptoms? Self-isolate and get a free test

-  New, persistent cough
-  High temperature
-  Loss of, or change to, sense of smell or taste

If you develop symptoms, however mild, you must self-isolate to prevent you passing the virus on and book a free test at nhs.uk/coronavirus or by calling 119. Alternatively, you can book an appointment at the Ramsay Hall test site (W1T 5HB, no step-free access) directly with Camden Council by calling 020 7974 4444 (option 9) – who can help you access support to self-isolate or with anything else at the same time.

Schools, colleges and nurseries

Primary and secondary schools, as well as further education colleges, will now stay closed until February half-term in line with national COVID-19 lockdown restrictions – except for vulnerable children and the children of critical workers. All other children will be learning online from home. Your child's school or college will be in touch about their arrangements.

Early years and childcare services, including children's centres, nurseries and childminders, will remain open, although staff absences (including COVID-19 related sicknesses) mean that places are being prioritised for vulnerable children and children of



critical workers.

For more information and the latest updates visit camden.gov.uk/schools-children-and-families