



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 16 : 4th March 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome Back

As you know, school is closed to children on Friday 5th March. All staff will be preparing to welcome ALL children back to school on Monday 8th March. On the final page of this newsletter is a helpful short guide for framing conversations with your child/ren about returning to school.

Drop Off and Pick Up

Listed below are the gates and times that your children will enter the school building. Please understand that we have to stagger entry times for safety reasons. Please wear a face covering and maintain social distancing of 2 meters when waiting.

Nursery Gate is on Islip Street

Safari Gate is on Frideswide Place

Islip Street Gate is outside Cedar class

Main Gate is the gate that leads into the school office entrance.

Year Group			
Year Group	Staff	Location	Gate and Start/Finish Time
Nursery	Tracy, Clare, Karin, Nasima	Acorns	Nursery Gate - 9:00-3:00
Reception	Jess, Caren, Sharon D, Chloe D	Oak	Nursery Gate: 9:10 -3:15
1	Issie, Lorraine, Lunette and Kahina	Ash	Safari Gate: 8:50 -3:00
2	Emma, Rachel, Shona, Irene	Willow	Safari Gate: 9:00-3:10
3	Flora, Cristina, Lule, Jean (Karen on some Thursdays and on Fridays)	Cedar	Islip St Gate: 9:00-3:15
4	Johnny, Maxine, Natalie, Sharon M	Sycamore	Islip St Gate: 8:50-3:00
5	Joe, Chloe C, Rebecca (Debbie is working remotely as she is shielding)	Chestnut	Main Gate: 9:00-3:15
6	Kate, Ed, Shepa	Beech	Main Gate 8:50-3:10

Recovery Curriculum

We will continue to use the work of Professor Barry Carpenter, Professor of Mental Health at Oxford Brookes University, to support children in returning to school. Barry Carpenter suggests there are 5 main things (levers) that we can use to support children at this time. These are:

1: **Relationships** – the need for us to reach out and greet children, welcome them back to school.

2: **Community** – really listen to children and understand their concerns. Have a genuine dialogue with children.

3: **Metacognition** – explicitly scaffold children’s confidence as learners. Very positive and clear feedback on learning behaviours.

4: **Transparent Curriculum** – LISTEN to children. Co-construct their learning based on their needs, telling them that you are addressing gaps.

5: **Give children space** – 30 min blocks to begin with. PE to encourage activity. Brain breaks between blocks of learning.

Once we have settled the children back in to school, we will be looking at specific skills and small groups of children will receive intervention to help them to fill these gaps. It is important that we do not put excessive pressure on children to “catch up”. Rebuilding will need to be a holistic process and it will take some time. In the short term we have a clear focus on the children’s wellbeing (both emotional and physical) and academic catch up will follow on from that.

It’s worth noting that teachers and support staff get first day nerves! Like the children, it’s a mixture of excitement at seeing everyone again and the feeling that we want it all to go well. Our plans are in place but, as lockdown has proved, we work best when we work as a team. You can help by talking positively to your children about their return to school, let them vent any nerves or worries and as always, please do contact your class teacher(s) if you want to talk to us or think there is something we should know.

Mental Health Considerations

Grant and Sharon McGran are our mental health team as many of you know. Sharon is a mental health first aider as well. Please email either of them if you have concerns about your child’s mental health: s.mcgran@kentishtown.camden.sch.uk or deputyhead@kentishtown.camden.sch.uk.

Miriam, Emma, Grant and myself will all be staffing the main gates on Monday morning and we are all looking forward to seeing you and your children.

Best wishes,
James Humphries- Headteacher

Father Peter

As many of you know Father Peter, our parish priest, is sadly leaving us on Easter Sunday this year after nearly eight years. Peter has worked closely with our school in his time at St. Benet’s, leading assemblies in school, making us very welcome at church and he has also taught RE in classes for us. In addition, Peter has been a member of the Governing Board at our school, serving three years as Chair. If you would like to make a small donation to say “thank you” then you can do so on ParentPay.

James Farmer, who serves on the Parochial Church Council at St. Benet’s, is collecting messages for Fr. Peter. You can email James at: james.farmer@b2bmarketing.net.

We will be thanking Peter for his work in our school at our Easter Service at the end of this term.

The Bishop of Fulham is looking at suitable candidates for St. Benet’s and when a suitable person is recruited then I am sure we will meet the new vicar and introduce him to our school community.

Preparing Your Child For the First Day Back in School

As schools begin to open to more children, parents and children may well be feeling anxious. Here's some ideas of how best to prepare.

Be Calm.

Your child will take their lead from you and be reassured if you are steady and matter of fact.



Be Curious.

These are strange times and their imagination may run away with them. Listen, and try not to dismiss or minimise their fears but validate how they are feeling – “it’s completely fine to feel like that at the moment” or “I can really understand why you would feel like that”



Be Positive.

Remind them of all the ways they have learnt to keep themselves safe: washing their hands regularly, sneezing and coughing into their elbow, not hugging others and staying in their own space.



Be Thankful.

Help your child think of things they are looking forward to: being with their friends, seeing their teacher, favourite activities but be mindful some of these may not be available for them



Be Supportive

Younger children particularly may struggle with separation anxiety and may become tearful, clingy or act out. Reassure them that you will miss them too and think of them through out the day. It might be helpful to draw a little heart on their wrist and one on yours too. You can call it the hug button and when they find they are missing you they can press the heart and know that you will be doing the same at home. Sometimes having a little object to remind them of you through the day helps but please check this out with your school first.



Be Prepared.

Support your child to be aware of changes that may have happened to their classroom environment since they were there last and rehearse any new routines that school may have shared. Rehearse and practice your ‘goodbye’ routine and create a ‘hello’ greeting for the end of the day for them to look forward to.





CAN YOU HELP?

As the children return to school on Monday please can you ensure that, where possible, you send everything your child needs for the day into school with them when they arrive at their designated drop off gates.

Sarah is still working remotely at the moment and I am currently working in the office on my own so keeping trips to the gate for forgotten lunches, water bottles, instruments etc to a minimum would help me greatly.

I really appreciate your help with this and look forward to seeing you all again soon.

Pam.

COVID-19 ABSENCE

Updated:
March 2021

A quick guide for parents / carers

Please note: the first day of self-isolation is day 0. You must stay in isolation for the next 10 full days

What to do if...	Action needed	Back to school...
...my child has COVID-19 (coronavirus) symptoms*	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Child shouldn't attend school• Child should get a test• Whole household self-isolates while waiting for test result• Inform school immediately about test result	... When child's test comes back negative and the child is well enough
... my child tests positive for COVID-19 (coronavirus) using a lateral flow test (rapid test) and they don't have symptoms	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• If the child was tested at school they should go home immediately• if the child tested at home they should inform school immediately about their test results• Child should have a confirmatory PCR test to confirm the result if they got a positive result from a rapid test (order online or call 119)• Whole household self-isolates for 10 days from day of test – even if someone tests negative during those 10 days	... after 10 days, as long as they haven't developed any symptoms. If they do develop symptoms, they need to self-isolate for 10 days from the start of symptoms*
... my child tests positive for COVID-19 (coronavirus) and they have symptoms	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Child shouldn't attend school• Inform school immediately about test results• Child self-isolates for at least 10 days from when any symptoms started (or from day of test if no symptoms)• Whole household self-isolates for 10 days from day when symptoms* started (or from day of test if no symptoms) – even if someone tests negative during those 10 days	After 10 days, if the child's symptoms have gone, or if the only symptoms they have are a cough or loss of smell or taste, which can last for several weeks.
...somebody in my household has COVID-19 (coronavirus) symptoms*	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Child shouldn't attend school• Household member with symptoms should get a test• Whole household self-isolates for 10 days while waiting for test result• Inform school immediately about test results	... when household member test is negative, and child does not have COVID-19 symptoms*

*symptoms includes at least one of the following: a high temperature; a new continuous cough; a loss of or change to your sense of smell or taste.

See more at nhs.uk/coronavirus



What to do if...**Action needed****Back to school...**

... somebody in my household has tested positive for COVID-19 (coronavirus)

- Child shouldn't attend school
- Whole household self-isolates for 10 days - even if someone tests negative during those 10 days
- Day 0 is the day the first person in the household's symptoms started (or the day the test was taken if no symptoms)
- If the child develops symptoms whilst self-isolating, they should get tested, and if they test positive they will need to self-isolate for 10 days from when their symptoms started

... when child has completed 10 days of self-isolation, as long as they are well

...NHS Test and Trace or your school/nursery has identified my child as a 'close contact' of somebody with symptoms* or confirmed COVID-19 (coronavirus)

- Child shouldn't attend school
- Child self-isolates for 10 days (as advised by NHS Test and Trace, or your school / nursery) - even if they test negative during those 10 days
- Rest of household does not need to self-isolate, unless they are a 'close contact' too
- If, during the isolation period, they develop symptoms or test positive they (and their household) will need to self-isolate for 10 days from when symptoms started or, if there are no symptoms, for 10 days from when they were tested

... when the child has completed 10 days of self-isolation, even if they test negative during those 10 days

....we/my child has travelled and has to self-isolate as part of a period of quarantine

- From 15 February onwards, everyone allowed to enter England who has visited or passed through a country where travel to the UK is banned in the last 10 days must:
 - quarantine for 10 days in a managed quarantine hotel
 - take a coronavirus test on or before day two and on or after day eight of quarantining
 - Read more about international travel and how this operates ([gov.uk/uk-border-control/before-you-leave-for-the-uk](https://www.gov.uk/uk-border-control/before-you-leave-for-the-uk))
- Do not take unauthorised leave in term time
- Consider quarantine requirements and Foreign and Commonwealth Office advice when booking travel
- Provide information to school as per attendance policy

... when the quarantine period has been completed for the child (10 days)

Returning from a destination where quarantine is needed:

- Child shouldn't attend school
- Day 0 of self-isolation is the day you arrive in the UK

What to do if...

Action needed

Back to school...

... we have received advice from a medical / official source that my child must resume shielding

- Child shouldn't attend school
- Contact school as advised by attendance officer / pastoral team
- Child should shield until you are informed that restrictions are lifted and shielding is paused again

... when school / other agencies inform you that restrictions have been lifted and your child can return to school again

... I am not sure who should get a test for COVID-19 (coronavirus)

There are two types of tests for COVID-19

For people who **don't have symptoms**:

- Simple and quick tests, known as lateral flow device (LFD) tests are used to test people, without the need for a laboratory. Children in secondary schools and colleges will be tested on site from 8 March and then issued with testing kits to use at home. If they test positive, then the child **and their close contacts** will be required to self-isolate for 10 days
- If any of the close contacts develop symptoms, they should stay at home and get tested
- If anyone tests positive whilst **not experiencing symptoms** but develop symptoms during the isolation period, they must restart the 10-day isolation period from the day they developed symptoms

For people who **have symptoms**, they should book a test online at nhs.uk/coronavirus or call **119**. The whole household should isolate for 10 days

... children who have tested negative and/ or who have no symptoms are able to attend school providing they are not isolating for any of the reasons set out above

For further information and support to self-isolate:
camden.gov.uk/coronavirus 020 7974 4444 (option 9)



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



KTS CE School Term & Holiday Dates 2021/22	
Autumn Term 2021 Total Days: 69	
Term Starts:	<i>INSET – Thursday 2nd and Friday 3rd September 2021</i>
	Children Return – Monday 6th September 2021
	<i>INSET – Friday 22nd October 2021</i>
Half Term:	Half-Term: Monday 25th – Friday 29th October 2021
	Children Return – Monday 1st November 2021
Term Ends:	Friday 17th December 2021 @ 1.15pm
Christmas Holidays:	Monday 20th December 2020 – Friday 31st December 2021
Spring Term 2022 Total Days: 59	
Term Starts:	<i>INSET – Monday 3rd January 2022</i>
	Children Return – Tuesday 4th January 2022
Half Term:	Monday 14th – Friday 18th February 2022
Term Ends:	Friday 1st April 2022 @ 1.15pm
Spring Holidays	Monday 4th April – Thursday 14th April 2022
Easter Holidays	Good Friday - 15th April 2022
	Easter Monday – 18th April 2022
Summer Term 2022 Total Days: 62	
Term Starts:	Tuesday 19th April 2022
Half Term:	Monday 30th May 2022 – Friday 3rd June 2022
	Children Return – Monday 6th June 2022
	<i>INSET – Friday 24th June 2022</i>
Term Ends:	Friday 22nd July 2022 @ 1.15pm
Bank Holidays	2nd May 2022 - Early May Bank Holiday
	Monday 30th May 2022 – Spring Bank Holiday
	Monday 29th August 2021 – Summer Bank Holiday

TOTAL DAYS

The total number of pupil days is 190

INSET Days = 5