



THE BAIRD PRIMARY ACADEMY

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Principal: Carly Welch

Thursday 10th December 2020

Advice to All Parents – Confirmed Cases – School Closure

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is with much regret that I have made the difficult decision to close the academy to all year groups. The academy will remain open for pupils of critical workers or to pupils who are considered vulnerable.

The decision to close is due to further staff members now being required to self-isolate, which means we are unable to maintain the appropriate level of staffing needed to operate safely.

We know that you may find this concerning but we are continuing to monitor the situation and are working closely with Public Health England. This letter is to inform you of the current situation and provide advice on how to support your child. Please be reassured that for most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

I have contacted the small number of children who have had close contact with any individuals who have tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19). These parents have received a letter informing them that their child must stay at home and self-isolate for 14 days.

The school will remain closed until Tuesday 5th January when we will reopen fully for all pupils.

Free School Meals

If your child is eligible for Free School Meals and you would like to request a Free School Meal box, please notify me by emailing fsm@thebairdprimaryacademy.org.uk or contacting the office to collect one. We will then notify you when the box is available for collection.

Remote Learning

We will initially be providing remote learning through Purple Mash during this time and then will be moving to online lessons (across the course of the next day). We will contact all parents to enable you to access this learning and provide links via email. Should you wish for paper packs of work to

be provided, due to a lack of internet access, please email us on fsm@thebairdprimaryacademy.org.uk or discuss this with us over the phone.

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.

Please continue to notify us of any positive test results so that we can support the track and trace process.

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

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

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

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.

How to stop COVID-19 spreading



There are things you can do to help reduce the risk of you and anyone you live with getting ill with COVID-19

Do

- wash your hands with soap and water often – do this for at least 20 seconds
- use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- wash your hands as soon as you get home
- 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

Further Information

Further information is available at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

We understand that this is a very challenging time for parents. Please do not hesitate to contact us either via email or on the phone to discuss any worries you may have or to answer any questions.

Yours sincerely



Mrs C Welch
Principal