

HOST BOROUGH

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES

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12.02.21

Dear parents/carers,

I would like to start off by saying a huge thank you to you all for doing a great job with home learning. I know how challenging it can be with having children at home and the day to day demands can be stressful especially for those parents who are having to juggle working from home.

Next week is half term so we will not be doing live lessons as teachers need a break and to recharge their batteries for next term. Children do have some activities to do as normal over holidays – a lot of this involves reading and plugging gaps in their learning. Unlike last year school will not be open to the children of key workers and vulnerable children next week. This was outlined by the government last month.

We will be returning to remote learning and reopen for the children of key workers and vulnerable children from Monday 22nd February. This is an important date as it is when the government will be reviewing lockdown and will announce if measures have been met for schools to reopen on March 8th. I do hope that we will be able to welcome back children from this date as we have missed seeing children and delivering face to face learning.

Please do take the time next week to have some family time together and I hope you do manage to find some time to get out of the house/flat and get some fresh air especially as the weather seems to be improving and not as cold as it has been recently. This is really important for mental health and wellbeing.

There are still a high number of cases of Covid in the local community however the good news is transmission rates are continuing to fall. Please see the link to the latest Newham dashboard

<https://www.newham.gov.uk/coviddashboard>

If you have any symptoms of Covid-19 you must self-isolate and get a test. Free rapid testing is also now available at a number of community testing sites for people without symptoms. Getting tested even if you are asymptomatic can help to detect unknown cases of Covid-19 and reduce the risk of spreading infection to others who you may come into contact with. Those who live in multi-generational homes; are carers; live with someone who is shielding, or have to go out to work are especially encouraged to get tested.

<https://www.newham.gov.uk/coronavirus-covid-19/c19-information-advice/4>

The Covid 19 vaccine continues to be rolled out across the country and in Newham. New vaccine centres have been opened up. There is a lot of inaccurate information being circulated on social

media about the vaccine which is causing anxiety in the local community. Please see the links below for further information and advice from trusted sources.

[How do vaccines work? – Covid-19 vaccination – Newham Council](#)

<https://www.eastlondonhcp.nhs.uk/ourplans/covid-explained-in-your-language.htm>

<https://www.eastlondonhcp.nhs.uk/ourplans/covid-19-vaccination-programme.htm>

Please see the image below which contains useful contact details for advice on Covid-19.

Questions or worries about anything to do with COVID-19:

- Food
- Money
- Advice
- Someone to talk to
- Help isolating if you can't at home

Newham can help.
Newham COVID-19 helpline:
020 7473 9711 (9am-7pm, 7 days a week)
covidhelp@community-links.org

COVID-19 – FREE HELP WITH ISOLATING

Keeping the people you live with safe

If you or someone in your house tests positive

- Free self-catering hotel room with kitchen, bathroom, wifi and food provided
- Stay for 10 days or longer if you still have a fever
- For people who test positive or other people they live with

How do I get the support?

- Contact the COVID-19 Helpline on 020 7473 9711 or covidhelp@community-links.org
- Talk through the best options for your household

How do I know it's safe?

- Initial medical assessment if you're positive
- Regular medical checks if needed
- A dedicated lift only used by people who have tested positive
- Rooms are deep cleaned between stays

Who is this for?

- Anyone who finds it hard to isolate from people you live with (eg shared bathroom)
- You live with a lot of people
- Anyone who lives with someone over 60 or someone who has a health condition

For help to isolate contact:
COVID-19 HELPLINE: 020 7473 9711 (9am-7pm, 7 days a week)
covidhelp@community-links.org

Take care, stay safe and continue to follow the government advice of 'Stay at home'. Please continue to follow the guidance of not mixing or visiting other households.

Yours sincerely

Paul A J Taylor

Head Teacher