

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back to a new school year, we hope you have all had a good summer. We look forward to having all the children back and getting back to as normal a routine as we can. Some of your children have been away from school for 6 months, we are working hard to support them and you to transition them back to school as smoothly and calmly as possible alongside supporting all of the other children in these different times. Please do call or email if you have any concerns or need support.

We thank you for all of your cooperation during lockdown and ask for your continued support and understanding throughout this difficult time.

Guidance to schools is constantly changing and we are doing our best to support our pupils, families and staff in line with the government protocols, this may mean that things adapt and change as the year goes on but we aim to keep you all informed whenever this may happen.

If your child or anyone in your household displays any of the symptoms below you **MUST** take the appropriate action and inform school to stop the spread.

## COVID-19 SYMPTOMS

If your child displays the following symptoms, they should self-isolate for 7 days (14 days for a household):

- a high temperature this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back
- a new, continuous cough this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more

coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)

• Loss of sense of smell or taste

Pupils and their families are eligible for testing; pupils aged over 5 can access via 111 online and under 5 through 111 helpline.

If a test is administered to a pupil, parents/carers must inform the school immediately of the test results.



The school will comply with the Track & Trace strategy and will provide details of anyone who has come into contact with a pupil or member of staff who has tested positive for Covid-19

The full Northway risk assessment for dealing with the corona virus is on the school website, but we have also put together a few answers to common questions below:

Northway Corona FAQS Does my child The government state that all children should now come back to have to come to school: "Now the circumstances have changed, it is vital for all school? children to return to school". If your child needs to quarantine as you have been abroad or in contact with someone with the virus, please let the school know as soon as possible. There will be no whole school gatherings eg assembly, use of dining What special arrangements are hall in place to Pupils will be in their class bubbles for most timetabled activities minimise risks Pupils will be in larger bubbles for playtimes when they are in the related to Covidlarge outside areas 19? There will be an emphasis on supporting pupils to wash their hands regularly throughout the day A one-way system is in place for moving round school Adults will maintain appropriate social distancing from other adults What should I do if Please inform the school as soon as possible and keep your child at home. School can advise on how to get tested, but school does not my child or someone within do the testing. my household is If the test comes back positive anyone in your household, including showing your child, must stay home for at least 14 days from when symptoms began. If the test is negative your child is able to come back to symptoms? school. Please keep school informed either way. When your child gets on the bus in the morning or are dropped off What will happen if my child is by you – they will have their temperature checked. If they are showing displaying any of the symptoms above then they will be asked to symptoms at stay home and get tested. school?

Northway School The Fairway Mill Hill London NW7 3HS Tel: 0208 359 5450 - Fax: 0208 959 5812 office@northway.barnet.sch.uk www.northway.barnet.sch.uk



| What if someone<br>in my child's class<br>is showing<br>symptoms? | They will be sent home and asked to get a test. We will not shut<br>down a bubble unless we have a confirmed case of the virus and<br>Public Health England/the Local Authority have advised we should<br>do so.   |
|---|--|
| Can I speak to my child's teacher?                                | Communication between home and school is just as vital as always,<br>so the home school diary and emails will be used. If you would like to<br>talk to a member of staff you must make an appointment to do so<br>and ideally this will be done via phone or online meeting platform.<br><b>Teachers will arrange for a virtual meeting to meet the team and to<br/>see the classroom over the course of the next 2 weeks.</b>   |
| What will my<br>child's day look<br>like?                         | We aim to make the day as normal as possible with added<br>precautions such as additional cleaning, hand-washing and<br>distancing from other bubbles. Playtimes will be within bubbles,<br>lunch will be eaten in the classroom.<br>Swimming, soft play and other rooms around school will reopen with<br>additional cleaning and safety precautions in place.<br>Only send essential items into school in your child's own rucksack  |
| Are school lunches available?                                     | School lunches will be available but they will be eaten within the classroom. Please confirm with the teacher if your child will be having a school lunch or a packed lunch.   |
| Will staff wear<br>PPE?   | Staff will wear PPE when and if needed or appropriate.   |
| Should my child wear a mask?                                      | No, the guidance from the government states that primary aged children and those with additional needs do not need to wear a mask.   |
| What about<br>dropping my child<br>off at school?                 | If you drop your child off at school, please do so considerately and<br>try to socially distance from other parents and staff. You must wait<br>outside the school doors and staff will bring your child to you. Again,<br>staff will not be able to talk at length during handover, so if you need<br>to speak to them please arrange a meeting.<br>The school car park will be open between 8.40am and 9am in the<br>morning and 2.50pm to 3.10pm in the afternoon but the gates will<br>be locked outside of these times. |

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Finally a reminder that we are not open for children for the first four Fridays of this term.

If there is anything else you would like to have clarified or need support with, please do get in touch.

Further school news and updates will be coming in the next week,

We look forward to having all of the children back and speaking to you all soon.

Kind Regards

Danielle Barker and the Senior Management Team.



