

Sunday 3rd January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are again in an extraordinary situation where schools are closed across London to all but Critical Worker families or Vulnerable pupils. It has taken some time today to unpick parents responses to our survey of need for school provision, so I apologise for the newsletter being sent out later than I had intended.

I have now sent out confirmation to all families who qualify for our school provision—if you feel you have been missed out then please email me at head@ashmount.islington.sch.uk

Learning for all of the community, whether learning at home or school will be the same. For those at home we will be offering our google Classroom offer. Music will not be immediately available as part of this offer as we also have some colleagues who are off work unwell. On Monday access to the classroom will start from 10 a.m., this will not be live at this stage. Then on Tuesday we will begin to introduce live interaction with our teaching and learning team, this will initially be a registration session and catch up with a teacher from your child's year group where the children can touch base but also we can explain how the live process will work. Then from Wednesday we will begin with some live teaching—this will look very different for different year groups, so please be patient with us!

There are of course key expectations for learning online—all children must use appropriate language when communicating online and when we are live teaching we expect the same behaviour at home as in school. Also, live teaching is of course for the children and we cannot accept parent interaction in these sessions. Additionally, if children can't behave appropriately during live or virtual learning they will for a time be suspended from the Google Classroom. We will issue further guidance on this tomorrow.

For those children at school, we will merge the two classes in each year group into one so we can support online provision to ensure equity for all families. We will still offer breakfast club to those who are in school. Similarly, arrival and departure at school will be as normal.

Can I ask all of you to let us know if there are any Covid-19 cases within you household. But we also recognise that even though Islington is doing better than many of its local authority neighbours, that the increasing infection rates locally has affected members of our community and sadly there may be those who have lost loved ones. If this is the case then please let us know if we can offer any support.

It is essential over the coming weeks that anyone coming onto the school site wears a face covering, this is to ensure everyone is kept safe. Within school staff will also be wearing masks when moving along corridors and some staff may choose to wear these whilst teaching.

I hope that we will soon be able to return to all children being in school. But until this occurs we will be in regular contact with you to ensure that all children are equally supported with their learning and wellbeing.

Best wishes and stay safe,
Anthony Carmel (Headteacher)

Sunday 3rd January 2021

Apply now for a place in Reception for September 2021

Now is the time to apply for your Reception place for next year!



Find out more...

Come on a socially distanced tour or arrange a virtual meeting with our Headteacher, Tony, by emailing the school office: office@ashmount.islington.sch.uk

Watch our virtual tour online: <https://ashmountprimaryschool.co.uk/parents/admissions/school-tours/>

If you need any support with the application or have any questions, you can contact our Early Years Lead, Louise, or our Deputy Headteacher Ellie, by calling us or emailing

info@ashmount.islington.sch.uk

Important Information

Even if you are already part of the brilliant Ashmount community in our Nursery, you do have to apply for a Reception place. **You must apply by 15th January 2021.** For more details, visit the Islington website: <https://www.islington.gov.uk/children-and-families/schools/apply-for-a-school-place/apply-for-a-primary-school-place>. To apply online, visit: <https://www.eadmissions.org.uk/>

Sunday 3rd January 2021

A Gentle Reminder

Whenever you are on the school site, morning or afternoon, please wear a face covering. If someone else is collecting your child, do make sure they know that a face covering is required.

Please keep your distance from others. At this time, you may have to wait a little longer than normal to pick up your child as we keep safety measures in place. It is a great help if you can be patient and understanding.

Only one adult should come onto the site to drop off or pick up.



Sunday 3rd January 2021

Notification of two key changes to self-isolation guidance

As of 14 December 2020:

1. Household members and other close contacts now need to self-isolate for 10 days (previously 14 days)
2. The first day of self-isolation is day 0, and the period of self-isolation lasts for the next 10 full days

Self-isolation advice

Positive cases of coronavirus

- **First day of self-isolation (day 0):** The day symptoms started, or the day the test was taken if no symptoms were present.
- **Length of self-isolation:** The first day of self-isolation is day 0, and the period of self-isolation lasts for the next 10 full days.

Household contacts

- **First day of self-isolation (day 0):** The day the first person in the household's symptoms started, or the day their test was taken if they did not have symptoms.
- **Length of self-isolation:** The first day of self-isolation is day 0, and the period of self-isolation lasts for the next 10 full days.

Other close contacts (not from same household)

- **First day of self-isolation (day 0):** The last day of contact with the positive case during their infectious period (i.e. from 48 hours before symptoms started), or 48 hours before the test day if no symptoms.
- **Length of self-isolation:** The first day of self-isolation is day 0, and the period of self-isolation lasts for the next 10 full days.