

COVID 19: Update for parents



The Government has announced that progress has been made in reducing the transmission of coronavirus. As a result, all Ealing schools are putting plans in place to welcome children from particular year groups back to school. However, please note that education and childcare settings continue to be open to priority groups.

Schools are ALREADY open for your child(ren) if they are a priority which include:

- You or your child is in need of extra support at this time
- Your child(ren) has a social worker or has an EHCP
- You are a key worker.

If eligible, please consider them going to school. Schools have also been working hard to welcome back your child if they are in Reception, Year 1 or Year 6.

These are considered key points in a child's development and being back in school will help them build the skills and knowledge they need to succeed. During this difficult time school can:

- Allow children to interact with teachers and friends, and develop these important relationships
- Be a safe place to play and learn
- Provide outside space to play
- Provide access to school resources, including IT
- Offer respite for families

The Government is slowly easing lockdown and expects children who are a 'priority', in Reception, Year 1 or Year 6 to be in school. We understand that many parents are worried about coronavirus.

Please be aware that school will only be opened to more children following careful risk assessment and planning, which includes the following measures to keep everyone safe:

- Smaller class sizes, increased use of outdoor space, and social distancing
- Staggered start and finish times, and alternative arrangements for break and lunch time
- Increased hand washing during the day, supervised hand washing and regular reminders to wash hands
- Frequent cleaning and disinfecting objects and surfaces that are touched regularly
- Teaching about good hand hygiene using eBug

Child and family circumstances differ. If your child has a medical condition, follow advice from your GP about returning to school. If your child is 'extremely clinically vulnerable', they still need to be **shielding** at home.

If there is someone in your home who is at greater risk of coronavirus due to being elderly, pregnant or having medical conditions, your child can still attend school. Please speak to a member of staff if you have specific concerns. If someone at home is shielding due to being 'extremely clinically vulnerable', your child should only attend school if stringent social distancing can be followed, otherwise your child's should continue to learn at home.

Your child should stay at home if they or anyone in their household develop coronavirus symptoms (such as a new cough, fever or loss of taste/smell) to avoid spreading the infection to others. If your child or someone in your household has symptoms, you can access a test. Please go to the **NHS website** to find out more.

