



Headteacher: Michelle Bahn  
Brewery Road, Islington, London N7 9QJ Tel: 020 7607 4115 Fax: 020 7607 5395  
Email: [admin@robertblair.islington.sch.uk](mailto:admin@robertblair.islington.sch.uk)  
[www.robertblairschool.com](http://www.robertblairschool.com)

26 June 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

I am delighted to let you all know that on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> June the school will be open to some children in all areas of the school. Whilst for some classes this may be for only part of the week, due to numbers and space, it is important that together we celebrate this achievement. As part of the Islington community, we have all worked together to ensure we have one of the lowest R rates in London (Currently 0.3) and across the United Kingdom. Well done everyone!

A big thank you to the parents and carers who have supported the reopening of the school and acknowledged the work done to ensure our site is safe, and to those of you who have sent messages of thanks and support to us all, over this extremely difficult and challenging time. I thank you very much on behalf of the school and our community. There has been a very positive spirit in the school and I know how hard everyone has worked together, both at home and at school, to make sure your child has had access to the very best education they could receive.

Providing the virus continues to reduce we will be operating as near to normal as is possible and are very much looking forward to having all our families and children back in school. The government will be updating advice in early July and again in August which will inform us how we are able to open. We are advised that closed bubbles are still likely be in operation in September. This means a set group of children and staff working across each bubble, with this in mind we are currently planning for both a full and partial return to school in September.

1. A full return with children returning for 4.5 days a week, this will allow for a full teaching and learning programme to resume and for bubbles to operate safely with minimal risk to children and adults.
2. A phased return to school with two bubbles in operation, Bubble A & Bubble B, in each class. This will mean children will be invited back into school for half of each week and continue their learning at home using the google classroom virtual platform when they are not in school.



Artsmark  
Gold Award  
Awarded by Arts  
Council England



We have very tight procedures in place within the school and have successfully run throughout all lockdown phases safely. I appreciate that many of you have not been able to have your child in school and thank you for your patience and perseverance. I have attached a copy of the latest guidance from public health which outlines clearly what will happen should any child, or adult in the school, develop symptoms of COVID-19. Those with symptoms will be isolated for 7 days and encouraged to take a test to confirm with us if the result is positive. We will follow the advice in the information should next steps may be necessary.

Over the coming weeks you will be receiving, by email, your child's school report. During the year our school council looked into reducing our use of paper. We have made great strides since then towards becoming a paperless school. We would be more than happy to print you a copy. Please let us know, after they have been sent out, via the [admin@robertblair.islington.sch.uk](mailto:admin@robertblair.islington.sch.uk) email

Our term dates for next year were also sent out via the school app and are available on the schools website. <https://bit.ly/2N9VOwE>. Children in the main school will be starting back on Monday September 7<sup>th</sup>. The children's Centre will be open for our all year-round children from Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September.

I know that you will want to join me in thanking the staff for their continued hard work and dedication over this extremely difficult period. At Robert Blair we take pride in being a school which cares for and nurtures its pupils. I know that you will give your children the same love, care and attention they need and deserve, both over the coming weeks and throughout the holidays.

Best Wishes



Michelle Bahn  
Headteacher

## COVID-19 symptoms and testing

Public Health update – 23 June 2020

### 1. If someone in the setting has symptoms of COVID-19 (child or staff member):

- The setting doesn't necessarily need to contact public health at this point
- The possible case should have a test arranged as soon as possible and within the first 5 days of having symptoms. If they test positive, they should be strongly encourage to fully engage with the NHS Test and Trace service.
- Testing can be arranged using the following website:
  - If a child/non-staff: visit the [NHS website](#)
  - If staff: visit the [Gov.uk website](#)
- The possible case should isolate immediately along with the rest of their household (including other siblings at the school/setting)
- Possible case should not attend the setting until 7 days after date of onset of symptoms AND have not had temperature for 48 hours
- They can attend provision if they still have a cough but no temperature if it is more than 7 days since the date of onset or date of test
- Members of the possible case's household should also self-isolate whilst test results are awaited.
- If the possible case is refusing to be tested the setting should encourage them to have a test to confirm whether they have coronavirus and advise that the test and trace service has been introduced to ease lockdown measures and help return to a more normal life. The test and trace service allows the spread of the virus to be traced, new infections to be isolated. By being tested for coronavirus the pupil or staff member could help reduce the spread of the virus.

### 2. Other people in the setting

- No one else in the setting needs to isolate unless there is a confirmed case – that means someone who has had a test for COVID-19 which has come back as positive

- If a member of staff or child has been in close contact with the unwell person whilst in the school or early years setting, they do not need to go home or self-isolate. The staff or child/parent should be advised to monitor for symptoms. They should also wash their hands thoroughly for 20 seconds after contact with someone who is unwell. There is no need for the setting to be closed.
- While awaiting the test result, any close contacts of the possible case in the setting should:
  - ensure they remain within their bubble / group and minimise any mixing
  - practice good hygiene (frequent handwashing, good respiratory hygiene practices and increased cleaning of surfaces), and
  - be vigilant for symptoms, particularly those within the possible case's bubble / group
  - follow cleaning advice as detailed in the [cleaning of non-healthcare settings guidance](#)

### 3. Once a test result is available

#### If the test result contact comes back confirming COVID-19:

- On notification of a confirmed test result case, the school should notify LCRC and local Public Health:
  - LCRC – call 0300 303 0450
  - Public Health – email [CIPHAdmin@Islington.gov.uk](mailto:CIPHAdmin@Islington.gov.uk)
- If the result is positive, advice on self-isolation of close contacts will be provided by LCRC:
  - The general advice is that: the rest of their class or group (bubble) should be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 14 days. The other household members of that wider class or group do not need to self-isolate unless symptomatic.
  - Closure of the whole setting will not generally be necessary.

#### If the test result contact comes back as negative for COVID-19:

- the person can return to their setting and the fellow household members can end their self-isolation – as long as they feel better (if they still have a temperature or other symptoms they could still have another virus, such as a cold or flu – in which case it is still best to avoid contact with other people until you are better).
- No further action will be required.