



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

17 May 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Today finally, after 15 months of lockdowns, we are moving from Tier 4 very high alert status which will see some small changes, and some relaxation in the guidance. However high alert coronavirus restrictions remain in place across the country. We are advised to be cautious and careful in exercising changes.

In England this means:

- Rule of 6 or two households can now meet indoors
- Groups of up to 30 people can meet outdoors we should continue to social distance when not with family
- We should work from home if you can and only travel when necessary
- If you have symptoms get a test and stay at home

There is further information attached to this letter to support you to understand the changes and provide further detail of what you can, and cannot do. In addition, the '**Supporting Your School to Remain COVID Secure**' document will help understand how our staff, parents, carers and children can work together to keep everyone safe.

It is essential we remain vigilant and continue to follow all the measures we have put in place. Whilst COVID19 remains active, the vaccination programme is still ongoing and the new COVID-19 variant is spreading in London-including North London, we must continue to work together. We have done very well to remain COVID secure and to minimise the spread of the virus in school. We must continue to remain highly alert for the safety of our children, staff and their families. Now is not the time for us to become complacent.

With this in mind we will continue with our current school risk assessment, guidance and procedures until we can be sure it is safe for us to begin making changes. We are very much looking forward to relaxing our procedures and inviting our friends and families back into the school. Until that time, we will continue to operate within our bubbles and follow routines to keep everyone safe. We can't wait to begin to expand our programmes as soon as we are able to! It has been a long and difficult year and I am so grateful for your patience and understanding. We will get there as quickly and safely as we can.



We do hope you have taken the opportunity to use our extended day provision. Breakfast Club(8am-8.45am) and After School Club (3.30pm -6pm) are now fully operational every day. As you are aware afterschool clubs will be running after half term from 4 to 5pm. Children are given a snack at our afterschool club and a break outside before clubs begin at 4pm. If you have not yet had the chance to register your interest please by Wednesday 19th May by using the link <https://s.surveyplanet.com/OhJcz1u0i>

Lateral flow tests and kits are free and are being made available to families across the borough. We encourage you to use these regularly to help keep our school and community safe. As the vaccine is rolled out to more age groups as there is an increased risk of asymptomatic positive people, carrying the virus without symptoms, spreading the virus unknowingly. The use of lateral flow test helps to reduce this spread. If the result is positive you must self-isolate and follow this up with a PCR test and all resulting necessary self-isolation procedures.

If you have any questions, queries or concerns please contact the school office who will be able to help you or put you in touch with someone who can. We will get back to you within two working days.

Best Wishes

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Michelle Bahn', is positioned above the printed name.

Michelle Bahn
Headteacher



Supporting Your School to Remain COVID Secure

All staff at Robert Blair will:

- ✓ comply with all aspects of the schools risk assessment and staff guidance
- ✓ monitor their own health and utilise the lateral flow tests available if they display symptoms
- ✓ engage with the school's expectations around testing and reporting of results
- ✓ establish a Covid-secure learning environment for the bubble they are working within
- ✓ support all expectations around keeping children in their bubbles
- ✓ maintain cleaning regimes within the classroom and shared areas
- ✓ model habits and behaviours for social distancing, hand hygiene and respiratory hygiene
- ✓ model safe movement around the school complying with all COVID guidance and expectations
- ✓ comply with agreed entrances, exits and one-way systems
- ✓ support children with habits and behaviours for social distancing and hygiene
- ✓ respond appropriately to any child displaying symptoms
- ✓ adhere to expectations around social distancing whilst on any break
- ✓ not expect children to bring anything between home and school apart from a home-school reading book
- ✓ conform with government guidelines when not at school

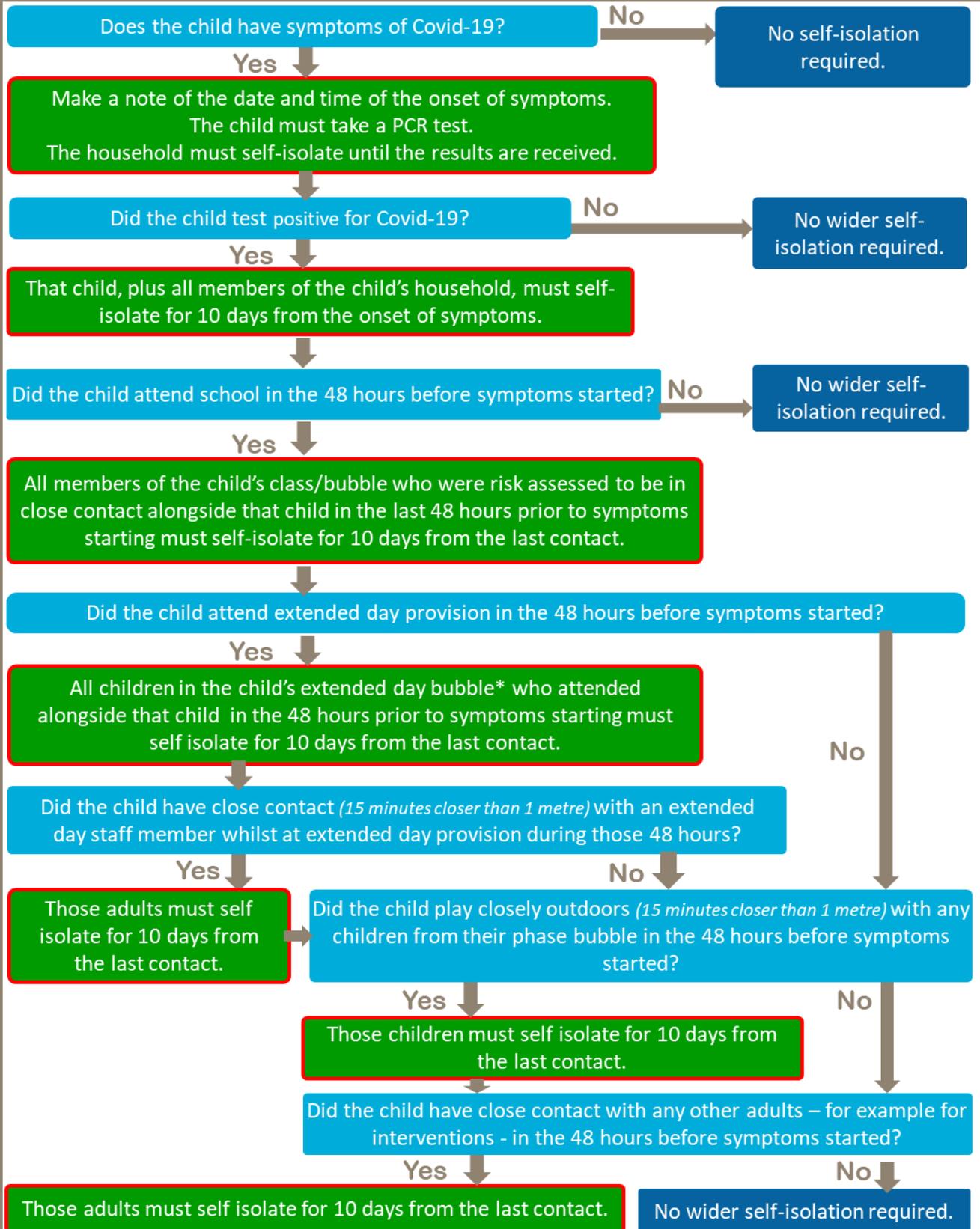
All families with children attending Robert Blair School will:

- ✓ support the school to stay safe by reporting children's wellness to staff on the gates at the start of the school day.
- ✓ monitor the health of their child: self-isolate their child and let the school know and follow the 'self-isolation protocols' if they display symptoms
- ✓ continue to engage with the school's expectations around testing and reporting of results
- ✓ ensure that following an absence from school children, and their families, **return to school via the main office on Brewery Road on their first day back to school.**
- ✓ ensure that the school has up to date contact information for the family
- ✓ arrive on time and collect their child on time – to support staggered start and finish times
- ✓ support their child in not bringing anything to school unless it is part of home learning
- ✓ provide their child with a change of suitable footwear for the school day which children change into when they arrive at school and before leaving at the end of the day.
- ✓ help their child practise washing hands thoroughly for 20 seconds
- ✓ practise social distancing – ensure that their child is familiar with and understands the importance of staying 2m apart wherever possible
- ✓ continue to use the appropriate entrance/exit and drop off/pick up point for their child's bubble (if there is more than one family member this is the gate of the youngest sibling)
- ✓ send their child to/collect their child from school with just one adult
- ✓ not enter the school building unless this has been prearranged or requested
- ✓ not congregate with other families outside of the school gates

Children attending Robert Blair will:

- ✓ not bring anything to and from school apart from requested home learning items
- ✓ use the appropriate entrance/exit and drop off/pick up gate for your bubble
- ✓ show your teachers that you understand the new expectations around social distancing and hygiene
- ✓ wash hands thoroughly, throughout the day and always when asked to by an adult
- ✓ tell an adult immediately if you feel unwell
- ✓ always do 'catch it, bin it, kill it' if you sneeze
- ✓ use the toilets which have been assigned to your bubble washing your hands before and after in class during learning time or in the playground during lunchtime, playtime or outdoor learning lessons.
- ✓ wash your hands when you arrive at school, at the beginning and end of each break time and before you leave
- ✓ look out for arrows and signs around the school and follow the one-way systems on staircases and in corridors
- ✓ reflect on and follow our three school rules during the school day; Be ready, Be Safe, Be Mindful

Self-isolation Protocol



* Shown by risk assessment to be in close contact alongside that child in the last 48 hours

17 May: What's changed:

You should continue to work from home if you can. When travelling within the UK, you should aim to do so safely and plan your journey in advance.

You should [get a test](#) and follow the [stay at home guidance](#) if you have COVID-19 symptoms.

- Gathering limits have been eased. Outdoor gatherings are limited to 30 people and indoor gatherings are limited to 6 people or 2 households (each household can include a support bubble, if eligible).
- New guidance on [meeting friends and family](#) emphasises personal responsibility rather than government rules. Instead of instructing you to stay 2m apart from anyone you don't live with, you are encouraged to exercise caution and consider the [guidance on risks associated with COVID-19 and actions you can take](#) to help keep you and your loved ones safe. Remember that the risks of close contact may be greater for some people than others and in some settings and circumstances, [there will be specific guidance that you will need to follow even when you are with friends and family](#).
- Indoor entertainment and attractions such as cinemas, theatres, concert halls, bowling alleys, casinos, amusement arcades, museums and children's indoor play areas are permitted to open with COVID-secure measures in place.
- People can attend indoor and outdoor events, including live performances, sporting events and business events. Attendance at these events is capped according to venue type, and attendees should follow the COVID-secure measures set out by those venues.
- Indoor hospitality venues such as restaurants, pubs, bars and cafes can reopen.
- Organised indoor sport can take place for all. This includes gym classes. It must be organised by a business, charity or public body and the organiser must take reasonable measures to reduce the risk of transmission.
- All holiday accommodation can open, including hotels and B&Bs. This can be used by groups of up to 6 or 2 households (each household can include a support bubble, if eligible).
- Funeral attendance is no longer be limited to 30 people, but will be determined by how many people the COVID-secure venue can safely accommodate with social distancing. Limits at weddings, wakes and other commemorative events have been increased to 30 people. Other significant life events, such as bar/bat mitzvahs and christenings, will also be able to take place with 30 people.
- The rules for care home residents visiting out and receiving visitors have changed, allowing up to five named visitors (two at any one time), provided visitors test negative for COVID-19.
- All higher education students are able to access in-person teaching.
- Support groups and parent and child group gathering limits have been increased to 30 people (not including under 5s)
- There is no longer a legal restriction or permitted reason required to travel internationally. A traffic light system for international travel has been introduced, and you must follow the [rules when returning to England depending on whether you return from a red, amber or green list country](#).