

Tuesday 4th January

Dear Families of Brentfield,

From us all at Brentfield I would like to wish you a happy New Year and look forward to welcoming your children back to school tomorrow.

With the Omicron variant now being the dominant variant and infections increasing daily, on the government has put Plan B into place. I would like to update you on the current situation and how we will continue with our plans to keep children, parents and staff as safe as we can.

The government have made it clear that schools are to remain open and all children must attend. At Brentfield we will continue to ventilate our classrooms, do regular handwashing and limit the number of visitors we have into our building. Our Covid Risk assessment remains in place and has been updated in line with the government advice.

Primary aged children do not need to wear face masks in school. If you wish for your child to wear them to travel to school that is fine but they will be asked to remove them at the gate to keep them clean and safe for their return journey home.

If your child displays Covid 19 symptoms then please keep them at home and do a PCR test. Please keep us updated and let us know the results. **Children must not come to school until they have had their test results back and are negative. If your child tests positive they must isolate at home. If they are well enough we will set work for them to complete at home.**

You may be eligible for a one-off Test and Trace Support Payment of £500 from your local authority if your child has been advised to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace. Further information on [claiming financial support under the Test and Trace Support Payment scheme](#) is available.

Track and Trace are responsible for identifying if your child has come into close contact of someone who has had Covid. Adults who are fully vaccinated and all children aged between 5 and 18 years identified as a contact of someone with COVID-19 should take a LFD test every day for 7 days and continue to attend their work/school as normal, unless they have a positive test result.

I would like to remind all parents and carers that you should only come to the school office if it is an emergency. Please call (020 8965 5326) or email (admin@brentfield.brent.sch.uk) if you have a questions. Parents will only be allowed on site by invitation only. **Please wear a mask when you bring your child to school and collect them. Remember to stay behind the red barriers outside the school at all times.**

I understand that this is still an unsettling time for all of us, especially children. If you feel that your child may be experiencing feelings of anxiety, stress or low mood as a result of the pandemic please encourage them to talk to their teacher or Natasha at Place2talk. If you would like further

information please call the school office and ask for an appointment to speak to Sam Matthews our Family Support Manager or Natasha Davies our Place 2Be School Project Manager.

Continue to talk to your children about keeping safe online and tell them they can talk to you about anything that is worrying them and reassure them that they will not 'get into trouble'. The government has produced further information and useful contacts, [guidance for parents and carers to keep children safe online](#) explains how to talk about online safety issues.

I will keep you updated if we have to revise any of our plans due to staff shortages or increased infections in school. We will continue to work together to keep our Brentfield community safe and our children learning in school.

Thank you for your continued support

N. Harmer

Nicola Harmer
Headteacher