



School Values

Responsible Excellence Share Polite Encourage Communicate Truth

Information and Procedures – 9th October 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

When we thought nothing else could go wrong, something happens! This week we had to close the school as a result of the Thames Water burst water pipe in Hackney. In my 9 years at this school, I have never once closed the school (other than the partial closures due to Covid-19)! Thank you to everybody for your support at such short notice. At least we now know who had changed their mobile number! Please do remember to keep us updated at all times because we never know when we will need to contact you.

During COVID-19, there are lots of rules we need to follow. Some of them relate directly to the school and the impact on whether we have to close a bubble or the whole school. Please see below some of the rules that must be kept in order to keep the whole school community safe and ensure we keep to a minimum the number of children and adults who have to be sent home to self-isolate for 14 days.

If a member of my family has symptoms, can I go to work?

No! As soon as anybody you live with develops the symptoms, everybody in the house needs to self-isolate and the person with the symptoms only must get themselves tested as soon as possible. If you get a negative test result, you can all stop self-isolating (as long as nobody else has got the symptoms in the meantime!).

This week we have seen more testing available in London, including Newham and, from today, there is a new test centre in Beckton, which is open from 8am-8pm. The test centre is at **Kingsford Way, E6 5JQ** which is behind the Beckton Globe. Like every test centre, you should still call and book through **119** or go to <https://self-referral.test-for-coronavirus.service.gov.uk/antigen/name> to book an appointment.

Remember you must not use public transport to travel to a test centre. I have enquired as to whether there will be a walk-in centre located near Stratford – I will let you know if and when this happens.

My employer won't let me have time off to self-isolate with my child – what can I do?

By law, your employer has to let you have time off to self-isolate, otherwise they are risking the spread of the virus in your workplace. If it would help, we have a letter that we can address to you to show your employer that we have asked you to take your child to be tested and the need for you to self-isolate until the results come back. Please do not hesitate to ask the staff when your child is sent home.

I hope this information is helpful. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please give us a call or email the school. In addition, you can always contact Newham's COVID-19 helpline on 0207 473 9711.

I wish you all a very enjoyable and safe weekend. Remember – **HANDS, FACE & SPACE!**

Take care

Diane Barrick - Headteacher

Drop off and Pick up

The start and end of the day are working really well after reviewing our procedures and making a few changes along the way. We have even had a couple of opportunities to test collection at the end of the day whilst it is raining and I believe it has run smoothly. A reminder to parents/carers of children in Years 4, 5 & 6. Please ensure you collect your children at 3pm. We need the exits clear so that we can send the Year 1, 2 & 3 children home promptly at 3.15pm.

Uniform - PE Kit

Thank you for supporting the school with ensuring your child wears their PE kit on PE days. Most children are now wearing the school PE kit on the correct day. However, there are some children who are not wearing PE kits according to the school's expectations. A reminder that the PE kit must be the school colours, which are listed below:

- Plain white t-shirt or polo shirt;
- Plain red or black shorts;
- Plain red, black or grey tracksuit bottoms;
- Black plimsolls/trainers (indoor) / Black trainers (outdoor).

During the autumn and spring terms, children will need a jumper, fleece, tracksuit top or hoody. However, this must also be one of the school colours – plain red, black or grey.

PE Timetable

A reminder about the PE days for your child's class:

| Class | Day |
|-----------|----------------------|
| Snowdrop | Tuesday |
| Sunflower | Wednesday |
| Bluebell | Monday & Thursday |
| Marigold | Wednesday & Thursday |
| Daisy | Tuesday & Thursday |
| Poppy | Monday & Thursday |
| Fern | Monday & Tuesday |
| Rose | Tuesday & Friday |
| Pine | Tuesday & Friday |
| Willow | Monday & Friday |
| Chestnut | Tuesday & Wednesday |
| Oak | Wednesday & Thursday |
| Holly | Monday & Friday |
| Tulip | Monday & Tuesday |

Black History Celebrations

To launch our Black History Month celebrations at Carpenters, next Friday 16th October, we will be taking part in the national "wear red" day, in support of the educational charity "Show Racism the Red Card". On this day, children can choose to wear something red alongside their school uniform to remind everyone that racism is not accepted at Carpenters. The redder the better!

If you would like to donate, you can do so via ParentPay. Details will follow next week. All donations received will go towards our international week celebrations in the Summer Term.

Also, watch this space next week for more information about our Black History Month celebrations and over the coming weeks we will be updating you on the changes we have made to our curriculum so this is not a focus once a year.

Communication

Communication between school and home is really important but more challenging during this time. However, it is really important that if you have any questions or concerns, no matter how small, that you are able to share them. Please do not hesitate to contact the school via phone on 0208 534 4759 or through the school's email address at info@carpenters.newham.sch.uk.

This week we have noticed a slight problem with our text service. You will have probably noticed that when we send out a message to a particular class, you may receive two different messages. This is because our system is picking up your child's current class and last year's class. You only need to read the one for their current class. We are working hard to have the sorted out as soon as possible.

Flu Vaccine

I have been approached by a couple of parents/carers over the last few days about the letter you have received from the NHS about the Flu Vaccine. This year, more than ever, it is really important that we all have the flu vaccine. The letter is to inform you that children will be entitled to a free flu vaccine at school, if you haven't already organised this yourself through your GP. I must reassure you that no children will be vaccinated without the prior consent (signature) of a parent/carer. It is expected that the children at Carpenters Primary will receive their vaccine in December. A few weeks before this, we will send home a letter and consent form for you to sign. If you do not return this, you will be contacted to ensure you return it with a yes or no. I will remind you again nearer the time.

Homework - Google Classroom

We are continuing to have a number of queries about using Google Classroom. School staff are using Google Classroom in some of their teaching each week so children can practise using it. Details of our expectations, the homework set and a step by step guide on how to use Google Classroom can be found at:

<https://www.carpenters.newham.sch.uk/weekly-homework.html>.

Over the next few weeks, we will be finding out how best we can support you with your child's homework and with the transition to online learning. As always, if you need any advice or support, please do not hesitate to contact Miss Hook or Miss Hobbs through the school office on 020 8534 4759 or through email - info@carpenters.newham.sch.uk.