

De Beauvoir Primary School

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Head of School: Daniela Rader

Headteacher: Rebecca Mackenzie (currently on secondment)

Monday 3rd January 2022

Dear Parents / Carers,

Wishing you all a very Happy New Year and hoping you had a restful and relaxing holiday. For those of you who celebrated Christmas, we hope you were able to spend some well-deserved time with friends and family.

I wanted to write a letter ahead of the start of term on **Wednesday 5th January 2022**, to update you on changes for the Spring Term. Attached to this email is a letter from Councillor Anntoinette Bramble (Deputy Mayor), Annie Gammon (Director of Education) and Dr Sandra Husbands (Director of Public Health) outlining the Covid-19 Actions for schools in Hackney. As you will be aware, cases of Omicron and Coronavirus have been increasing and there are predictions that these will continue to rise with schools returning. Please be reassured that we are doing everything we can to guarantee that any changes to the provision have minimal disruption and ensure the continuation of teaching and learning for all pupils. To minimise the spread of the virus within school, we will be implementing a number of changes and ask parents/carers to assist us with this.

- From January 2022, we will return to a **bubble model**. This has been advised by Annie Gammon, Director of Education. More extensive guidance is clear that this should not impact teaching and learning, therefore at De Beauvoir, we will be considering Beech and Birch Class a bubble for the purpose of continuing our phonics provision. Therefore we will have 5 bubbles – Fig (EYFS), Beech and Birch (Year 1/2), Olive (Year 3/4), Magnolia (Year 5) and Sycamore (Year 6). We will be limiting interactions between these bubbles through separated play areas and staggered lunch sittings.



- In December, we stopped whole school gatherings and moved to **remote assemblies**. This will continue in the Spring Term.



- We will continue to ensure **good ventilation** within the school, with windows open and CO2 monitors in learning spaces. Please ensure your child has a warm navy jumper/cardigan, as children must be in school uniform. We have a huge amount of second-hand uniform available from school. If you need any uniform, please speak to Ms Icilda.



- We will continue to encourage pupils to **wash hands** regularly and use sanitiser when moving between spaces in the school. Regular cleaning throughout the school day will also continue.



- We will be **reducing the number of visitors onsite**, therefore meetings with school staff may be virtual rather than face to face. Please leave a message or make an appointment through the school office if you require a meeting with a member of school staff.



- All visitors on site must **wear a mask/face covering**, unless exempt. We also ask parents/carers to wear face coverings when collecting their child/children, unless exempt, and to ensure they remain **socially distanced** where possible.



- In line with our contingency plans, there may be times when bubbles are required to close due to a large number of positive cases of COVID. More information will be shared with those families affected, however, where a bubble is closed, learning will be remote through GoogleClassroom. Please ensure that your child has their login information and password for their GoogleClassroom account. Where individual children are



isolating, remote learning will continue to be provided via paper packs or via the website. Information will be shared with the children and families and we thank you for your on-going support.

What you can do to help!

- All adults are encouraged to have **COVID vaccinations/booster** – these can be booked online <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/book-coronavirus-vaccination/>



- If you have **travelled abroad** over Christmas, please **follow all Government rules** for testing and quarantine and please note, absence due to quarantining or changes to the red list cannot be authorised.



- We are also encouraging families to regularly do **Lateral Flow Tests**, including one before returning to school after the holidays, particularly if there has been any travel. Take a PCR test if you develop any of the [Covid-19 symptoms](#). See [Hackney's website](#) for more information on how to get tested and where to get LFD tests from.



- If your **child develops symptoms** of COVID-19, they must go for a **PCR test immediately** (follow the guidance for positive tests as outlined in previous letters).



- **Self isolate** for seven days if your child or a household member tests positive. You can now end self-isolation at day 7 following *two negative LFD tests taken 24hrs apart*. See the [guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#). Please note that close contacts will be identified by NHS Test & Trace and your child's school will not send suspected contacts home.



Start and End of Day Arrangements from 5th January



All children should arrive at 8:45am and be collected at 3:30pm. Children in [Beech Class \(Y1\)](#), [Birch Class \(Y2\)](#), [Olive Class \(Y3/4\)](#), [Magnolia Class \(Y5\)](#) and [Sycamore Class \(Y6\)](#) should enter down the side passage and go straight to their classroom using the side entrance. [Fig Class \(EYFS\)](#), will enter through the EYFS entrance and go straight to their classrooms. Where possible, we ask **only Fig Class parents** to accompany their children to the classroom door in the morning, however, we do ask parents to **socially distance** and **wear masks**, unless exempt where entering the school building. Messages for class teachers can be given to staff on the gate or to Ms Icilda in the office.

Collection for [Fig Class \(EYFS\)](#) will be from their classroom doors. [Beech Class \(Y1\)](#), [Birch Class \(Y2\)](#), [Olive Class \(Y3/4\)](#), [Magnolia Class \(Y5\)](#) and [Sycamore Class \(Y6\)](#) will be collected from the playground. We do ask parents to **socially distance** where possible and **wear masks, unless exempt** when collecting their child/ren.

Children in [Magnolia Class \(Y5\)](#) and [Sycamore Class \(Y6\)](#) can travel home independently, however, we need written permission before we are able to dismiss children independently.

Wraparound Care – starting Thursday 6th January

We are continuing to run breakfast and extended day provision in conjunction with Holy Trinity CE Primary School. All the information is available from the Holy Trinity CE Primary School website – Parents – Extended Provision. Holy Trinity CE Primary School is located at Beechwood Road, London E8 3DY, roughly a 5/10 minute walk from De Beauvoir Primary School.

Breakfast Club and Extended Day Care will resume on **Thursday 6th January, HOWEVER**, if you would like a place for your child, please contact **Holy Trinity** and note that fees will need to be **paid in advance**. A timetable of After School clubs will be shared when it has been finalised, with more information about signing up and registering information. Further information is available from the Holy Trinity CE Primary School website.

[Holy Trinity Primary School | Extended Provision](#)

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me and we are looking forward to seeing you all on the **5th January**.

Daniela Rader, Head of School