

5th January 2021

Dear Parents, Carers, and Families

We hope this finds you well. The Prime Minister announced a full lockdown of England for this half term in the 8pm briefing yesterday. We did not know this in advance – we found out when you did. The guidance from the Department for Education to schools was then sent to us at 11pm.

We have a slight increase in the number of staff that want to follow union guidance and work from home. We are adjusting the plans so that we can still support the families that have stated they want to be onsite. This will allow us to run two schools: the on-site school and the virtual school. The virtual school will be consistent. The on-site school will be dependent on staffing. If we hit a critical number for any class on any day, it will need to move to the virtual school.

The first day for pupils is tomorrow, 6th January 2021. We will review this plan on 15th January 2021.

On-Site Cohort: 94 pupils are coming on-site.

- Your child's bubble colour is the same.
- We need to continue our bubble safety measures. This includes no external cover to avoid any risks with transmission. We previously covered across a bubble but do not have that flexibility with the number of staff that will not be coming to the school building.
- If we hit a critical number of absences, your class will move to the virtual school unless your child is the child of a keyworker, on a 'child protection' caseload, a 'Looked After Child', or a 'child in need' status.
- If your child travels with Local Authority transport – we have informed them. They will confirm their pick-up time with you as we are not informed of that information.
- If you drop off your child – you must wear a face mask and socially distance with the cones outside. We cannot let you through the gates without a face mask on. You will not be able to enter the pedestrian gates before the senior leader on the gates lets you in. Please do not arrive early, do not walk past the staff on the gate, and do not walk through the vehicle gate.
- Lateral testing is being trialled today. Parents of children aged 11-19 need to complete an online consent form for lateral testing which will be sent via email at the end of today. You do not have to agree to the lateral testing but must state this on the form.
- Inform us and call 111 if your child shows any symptoms of COVID-19 – they should not come to school to avoid any risk of transmission.

Virtual School Cohort: 156 pupils are in the virtual school.

- Your child's bubble colour is the same.
- The teacher will send you the timetable, social story, and any additional information later today. Face to face sessions will feature daily. Assessment will be wrapped around the learning programme.
- If you need any technical support with Evidence for Learning, Zoom, or Microsoft Teams – please inform your teacher. They will elevate this to our technology team if they cannot resolve this.

- If your child receives free school meals you will receive a separate letter with your food voucher details.
- Please inform us if your child develops symptoms so that we can process this in the way we did previously.

The school reception is open and the senior leadership team is on site. If you have any questions, call 0207 6818080 or email admin@swisscottage.camden.sch.uk / support@swisscottage.camden.sch.uk.

We are trying our best to make this work. We have limited additional resources to respond to this complex picture. Thank you for supporting us as we respond swiftly with the government changes.

Yours Sincerely,



Vijita Patel
Principal



Becky Shaw
Vice Principal



Mia Dodsworth
Vice Principal



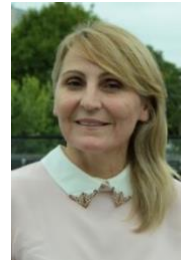
Lucy Hall
Assistant
Principal



Laura Fawcett
Assistant
Principal
(Lower)



Matthew Maguire
Assistant
Principal
(Upper)



Rima Blakaj,
School Business
Manager



Monitor for COVID-19 Symptoms:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough
- a loss of, or change to, your sense of smell or taste

National Lockdown web link: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

National Lockdown List:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/949536/NationalLockdownGuidance.pdf