

11th December 2020

Dear Parents, Carers, and Families,

We hope this finds you well and safe. Classes throughout the school have explored the themes of 'Reflection' for the festival of Hanukkah. We would usually come together as a community through our Winter Festival to celebrate the learning through performances and social enterprise products created by the classes. We want to keep the connectivity through a video that will be shared with each class on a specific 'Creative Arts' exhibit. You will receive a weblink next week from your class teacher of the end of term exhibit for your child's class. The link is secure and on the school YouTube. We hope you will enjoy viewing this together with your child to celebrate their achievements.

Progress Meetings

Thank you to every family that was able to join the Progress Meeting for your child. The 'Evidence for Learning' journal for the Autumn Term will be uploaded today for every family to access. We have offered support and training to families that have requested this. Please let your class teacher know if you have not received your EFL journal or need technical support such as password reset.

Camden Young Carer of the Year Award

We are incredibly excited to share some wonderful news. Kaiden is a pupil in Iris class and his older sister Paris won the Camden Young Carer Award! We are so proud of Paris who is an amazing role model reflecting the important role siblings hold for our pupils. Congratulations Paris!



Final Day of Term

The final day of the term is Friday, 18th December 2020. The school will continue to remain open next week unless there is a change announced from the government or Department for Education. Camden is currently Tier 2.

Winter Holiday – Monitoring COVID-19 cases

The Department for Education is requiring schools to continue contact tracing for COVID-19 up to 24th December 2020. If a member of staff in school tests positive for COVID-19 we will inform you if there is a need for you to self-isolate and monitor symptoms. If your child tests positive for COVID-19 during the holidays you will need to let the school know so that we can assess if any staff need to self-isolate. The school building will be closed including our reception. We will send directions on how to inform the school early next in a printed newsletter.

- The government guidance for 23rd – 27th December is located here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/making-a-christmas-bubble-with-friends-and-family/making-a-christmas-bubble-with-friends-and-family>

- If your family travels abroad over the holiday period – please ensure you are checking the rules for returning to England, testing, and quarantine requirements. <https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice>

Spring Term: 1st Day for Pupils – Changed to Tuesday, 5th January 2021

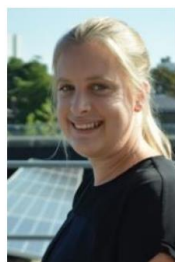
We want to have a safe start to the Spring Term, especially with the rising numbers of COVID-19 cases across London. We are bringing forward the staff training day scheduled to take place in June to Monday, 4th January 2021. This will allow the school to assess the status of staff and pupils following the Winter Holiday period. It will let us confirm any households that are in self-isolation due to symptoms or confirmed COVID-19 cases. We will send details on the plan and link to an electronic survey next week in the printed newsletter. Thank you for supporting us to help keep the community safe as everybody returns from the holidays to the new school term.

Happy Hanukkah to every family celebrating this time of reflection, and wishing each of you a safe weekend.

Yours Sincerely,



Vijita Patel
Principal



Becky Shaw,
Vice Principal



Rima Blakaj,
School Business
Manager



Lucy Hall,
Assistant
Principal



Laura Fawcett,
Assistant
Principal
(Lower)



Matthew Maguire,
Assistant Principal
(Upper)



Monitor for COVID-19 Symptoms:

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

Coronavirus: Weekly update from Camden Council

For the latest information and support from Camden Council and its partners, including updates to services:

- Visit camden.gov.uk/coronavirus – includes information in different languages
- Check the rolling newsfeed at camden.gov.uk/coronavirusnews
- Follow Twitter [@CamdenCouncil](https://twitter.com/CamdenCouncil)
- Speak to someone at the Council directly by calling **020 7974 4444 (option 9)**.

SIGN UP to the Council's coronavirus e-newsletter at camden.gov.uk/coronavirus-updates

IT'S VITAL TO FOLLOW PUBLIC HEALTH ADVICE

Lockdown might be over, but rates of COVID-19 are still too high. Protect yourself, family and friends from coronavirus by following Tier 2 restrictions and:



Washing your hands regularly



Keeping 2 metres apart from people you don't live with



Wearing a face covering in indoor public spaces, unless exempt

GOT SYMPTOMS? GET A FREE COVID-19 TEST

If you develop coronavirus symptoms, organising a test takes 5-10 minutes at nhs.uk/coronavirus or by calling **119**. There are plenty of test site appointments and at-home test kits available in Camden and you should get results in 48 hours. If you have any worries about booking a test this way, you can book directly with Camden Council. Visit camden.gov.uk/bookatest or call the Council on **020 7974 4444 (option 9)**. The Council recommends this option if you need support with anything, including to self-isolate, as staff can speak to you about this at the same time.

Celebrating Hanukkah safely

Today (10 December) marks the first day of Hanukkah. Cases of coronavirus are still high across London so please celebrate safely to keep yourself and loved ones safe. For example, organise a virtual family dinner or stream a prayer session so you can celebrate with those outside your household or bubble.

Thank you to every member of Camden's Jewish community for the sacrifices you've made this year to celebrate festivals differently — including the High Holy Days. Your actions have undoubtedly helped to save lives.

Let's keep each other safe while shopping

Camden's shops and town centres are working hard to keep you safe by making their premises COVID-secure. With cases of coronavirus rising across London, it's so important that we do everything we can to follow public health advice and be extra safe to help save lives and livelihoods.

Please follow safety measures in-store and on the way to and from shops. This includes staying 2 metres from anyone you don't live with, wearing a face covering in indoor public spaces, unless exempt, and regularly washing your hands and using hand sanitiser. You can also help by shopping local and avoiding public transport where possible. Please make sure you also follow the rules when you visit pubs and restaurants. Together we can keep each other safe, and protect jobs that could be lost if London moves from Tier 2 to new restrictions. Find out more at camden.gov.uk/coronavirus



As we near the end of the year, many of us will be reflecting on the impact of coronavirus on our lives. For many it has been devastating, which is why it is more important than ever to keep following public health guidelines to help reduce the spread of the virus.

So many have been left struggling with household debt and unemployment – some unable to afford to eat or going hungry to feed their families. The scale of this crisis is huge and I know so many people want to help but aren't sure how.

The Covid Community Campaign is raising funds to ensure no one in London goes hungry this winter. We have seen what can be achieved when communities come together to support one another, so I urge you all to join in at covidcommunitycampaign.co.uk – donate whatever you can afford and find out how you can help locally. If you are struggling, please know that there is support available.

Councillor Georgia Gould, Leader of Camden Council



Help support residents facing food poverty as part of the Covid Community Campaign, which is launching with an online fundraiser.

We have all seen the devastating effects of coronavirus on our communities, including an increased demand for food support. With 8.4 million people in this country at risk of going hungry each week, the winter months will cause further worries.

The Covid Community Campaign is a collaboration between London Councils and Dame Louise Casey, with support from the Mayor of London and FareShare, The Trussell

Trust, Magic Breakfast and Social Bite. The fundraiser will support these organisations who are working to fight food poverty both now and long term. You can also get involved by donating food or volunteering locally. All support is gratefully received – if you are able to, please give what you can to help others. Even a little can make a big difference.

Donate and find out more about how to get involved at covidcommunitycampaign.co.uk

To find food support near you, or support local organisations directly, visit findfood.camden.gov.uk

Grant funding available to support businesses

If you run a business, are self-employed or work as a freelancer and have been severely impacted by lockdown or tier restrictions, there is additional Government funding that you may be eligible to apply for. Funding applications are currently open for four different schemes:

1. Local Restrictions Support Grant (Closed) – for businesses required to close during lockdown
2. Local Restrictions Support Grant (Sector) – for sectors required by the Government to close
3. Local Restrictions Support Grant (Open) – for businesses remaining open but impacted by tier restrictions
4. Additional Restrictions Grant – for businesses, particularly those in the supply chain or certain freelance groups, severely impacted by restrictions but not covered by other schemes. Applications close on Wednesday 16 December.

Find out more and apply at camden.gov.uk/grant-support

camden.gov.uk/coronavirus 020 7974 4444 (option 9)

