

16th October 2020

Dear Parents, Carers, and Families,

We hope this finds you well. There are a number of news updates around COVID-19 and London following the Prime Minister's announcement on Monday evening. We are sending across a summary so that our community understands what this means for our locality and us as a school. England has a new 3 Tier system for the COVID-19 pandemic. The 3 tiers are:

Tier 1: Medium

Tier 2: High

Tier 3: Very High

Each Tier provides restrictions and safety measures to manage the rising number of positive cases of COVID-19 in a local area. The Mayor of London has confirmed that London will move up to 'Tier 2: High' at the end of today. This means there are important safety measures our community needs to be aware of:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/local-covid-alert-level-high>

Government Guidance: Local COVID Alert Level – 'Tier 2 High'

This is for areas with a higher level of infections. This means the following additional measures are in place:

- People must not meet with anybody outside their household or support bubble in any indoor setting, whether at home or in a public place
- People must not meet in a group of more than 6 outside, including in a garden or other space.
- People should aim to reduce the number of journeys they make where possible. If they need to travel, they should walk or cycle where possible, or to plan ahead and avoid busy times and routes on public transport.
- **Our school remains open** with our defined safety measures:
(<https://swisscottage.camden.sch.uk/our-school/september-2020-school-safety-measures/>)
- We ask that any parents/carers that come to school wear a face mask and follow the 2m social distancing markers whilst waiting at drop off/pick up times. This will help keep you and us safe.

Virtual School Planning

We want to ensure we are fully prepared for any potential government decisions on lockdown. The Virtual School during the summer term was put into place very quickly. We have made a number of changes to our computer system and the class teams have worked hard to prepare a range of resources so that we are ready if there were any sudden decision from the government. We have a short survey for families to help us get the planning right.

Please complete this survey by Wednesday, 21st October to support our preparations:

<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/31T4I7/>

Half Term: Monday, 26th October – Friday, 30th October 2020

The news and radio updates discuss a potential 2-week half term break. We have **not** received any updates from Camden Local Authority or the Department for Education stating this. Our half term break is currently planned on being one week long from 26th October to 30th October. We also have the scheduled Training Day on Friday, 23rd October 2020. If anything changes through a government decision – we will inform you immediately.

Your child's last day of school for this half term is Thursday, 22nd October 2020.

Friday, 23rd October 2020 is a staff training day.

Half Term Break is Monday, 26th October to Friday, 30th October 2020.

Return to school: Monday, 2nd November 2020

Charity Fundraising Appeal

Thank you for your support with our fundraising appeal to purchase a 90-minute COVID-19 testing machine. The Swiss Cottage School Charity trustees are pleased to update you on some fantastic news. We have fundraised the cost of the COVID-19 testing machine through the support of 60 donors!

Our target is now only £4000 for our first set of testing kits. Please spread the word and share this link with any networks that may be able to help us: <https://swisscottage.camden.sch.uk/support-us/fundraising/>

The trustees have ordered the machine with the hopes that it will arrive by November. The school is working with Public Health England and the machine's company for training and preparations. We will write to you with more information after half term. This is incredible news and so important for our school community.

We hope you have a safe weekend as you transition into the new Tier 2 measures for London.

Take care,



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)

VERY HIGH

 HM Government



HIGH

LOCAL COVID ALERT LEVEL

HIGH

MEDIUM

<p>Social Contact</p>  <p>1 household / bubble indoors. Rule of six outdoors.</p>	<p>Weddings and Funerals</p>  <p>Up to 15 guests for weddings and up to 30 guests for funerals. 15 for receptions, wakes and related ceremonies.</p>	<p>Overnight Stays</p>  <p>Overnight stays permitted subject to social contact rules.</p>	<p>Working from home guidance</p>  <p>Work from home where possible.</p>
<p>Shopping and Retail</p>  <p>Open.</p>	<p>Leisure and gyms</p>  <p>Open.</p>	<p>Hospitality</p>  <p>Open with some restrictions including 10pm closing time and table-service only.</p>	<p>Entertainment and tourist attractions</p>  <p>Open, except nightclubs and adult entertainment.</p>
<p>Education</p>  <p>Schools, FE colleges open. Universities must reflect wider restrictions.</p>	<p>Healthcare Services</p>  <p>Open.</p>	<p>Residential Care</p>  <p>Closed to external visitors other than in exceptional circumstances.</p>	<p>Travel and Transport</p>  <p>May continue to travel to open venues, but reduce number of journeys where possible. Avoid travel into Local COVID Alert Level Very High areas where possible.</p>
<p>Sporting Activity</p>  <p>Organised sport / licensed physical activity allowed in outdoor settings. Indoor organised sport must follow social contact rules (other than youth or disabled sport).</p>	<p>Worship</p>  <p>Open, subject to social contact rules.</p>	<p>Childcare</p>  <p>Registered and wraparound childcare. Supervised activities permitted in private homes. Children's groups permitted. Childcare bubbles for under 14s.</p>	<p>Youth Clubs and Activities</p>  <p>Permitted.</p>

There are three simple actions we must all do to keep on protecting each other:



Wash hands
keep washing your hands regularly



Cover face
wear a face covering in enclosed spaces



Make space
stay at least 2 metres apart - or 1 metre with a face covering or other precautions

For more information and detailed guidance visit:
[gov.uk/coronavirus](https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus)

Coronavirus

Wash your hands more often



Coronavirus is a serious illness that can make you very ill.



The best way to not catch it is to wash your hands more often for 20 seconds.



Use soap and water or a hand sanitiser when you:

- Get home or into work
- Blow your nose, sneeze or cough
- Eat or touch food



Find out more at
[nhs.uk/coronavirus](https://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus)

CORONAVIRUS

**PROTECT
YOURSELF
& OTHERS**

**We must
keep on protecting
each other.**



HANDS



FACE



SPACE

STAY ALERT ▶ CONTROL THE VIRUS ▶ SAVE LIVES