

# East Birmingham Network Academy

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Dear Parent/Carer,

16<sup>th</sup> November 2020

**Re: School Closure**

I hope you are all safe and well during this current time.

I am writing to inform you that, unfortunately, due to the number of staff required to self-isolate as a result of COVID-19 related issues, EBN Academy 2 will remain closed for the duration of w/b 16<sup>th</sup> November 2020. This decision has been taken as, due to the number of staff not able to attend the Academy at present, we are unable to staff the school in line with health and safety requirements. I must stress that this decision is not related to COVID-19 cases within the school but is a health and safety decision.

To support your child during this week, you will receive a pack of work pack related to your child's year group and current topics in each subject. During this week we will be in contact to offer any support for your child and to complete a safe and well-being check. It is our intention to re-open school either fully or in a phased way on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> November, however this will be dependent on developments through this week. I will be in touch again later this week to confirm the details.

You will be aware that the school was closed on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November following a confirmed COVID-19 case. In response to this, please find enclosed a single case letter that we are directed to send to you by the Department for Education. Any student who was identified as a close contact, and therefore is required to self-isolate, has been informed.

I understand that this is both a worrying and frustrating time for students and their parents/carers, but I am sure that you will understand that all decisions taken by EBN Academy have the health, safety and well-being of staff and students firmly in mind.

If you receive Free School Meals and require support during this week then please get in contact with the school directly and we will arrange support.

If you have any concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to contact myself or Mrs. Shearer by phone or email.

Head Teacher – Mr. Baldwin	<a href="mailto:mbaldwin@ebnfs.org">mbaldwin@ebnfs.org</a> Tel - 07803210275
Deputy Head Teacher – Mrs. Shearer	<a href="mailto:kshearer@ebnfs.org">kshearer@ebnfs.org</a> Tel - 07513555524

Thank you for your ongoing support at this time.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Matt Baldwin', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Mr Matthew Baldwin  
Executive Head Teacher

## What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID 19

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, they must not come to school and should remain at home for at least **10 days** from the date when their symptoms appeared. Anyone with symptoms will be eligible for testing and this can be arranged via <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test> or by calling 119.

All other household members who remain well, must stay at home and not leave the house for 14 days. This includes anyone in your 'Support Bubble'.

Further information is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

The 14-day period starts from the day when the first person in the house became ill.

Household members should not go to work, school or public areas and exercise should be taken within the home.

If you require help with buying groceries, other shopping or picking up medication, or walking a dog, you should ask friends or family.

Alternatively, you can order your shopping online and medication by phone or online. Household members staying at home for 14 days will greatly reduce the overall amount of infection the household could pass on to others in the community

If you are able, move any vulnerable individuals (such as the elderly and those with underlying health conditions) out of your home, to stay with friends or family for the duration of the home isolation period.

### Symptoms

The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of:

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

### For most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

If your child does develop symptoms, you can seek advice from the nhs.uk website at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/>. If you are concerned about your child's symptoms, or they are worsening you can seek advice from NHS 111 at <https://111.nhs.uk/> or by phoning 111.

### How to stop COVID-19 spreading

There are things you can do to help reduce the risk of you and anyone you live with getting ill with COVID-19

#### Do

- wash your hands with soap and water often – do this for at least 20 seconds
- use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- wash your hands as soon as you get home
- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
- put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards

### Further Information

Further information is available at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>