

# Balham Nursery School

Executive Headteacher: Ms Emma Williams B.Ed (ECE)  
72 Endlesham Road, London SW12 8JL  
Telephone: 020 8673 4055  
Email: [admin@balham-nursery.wandsworth.sch.uk](mailto:admin@balham-nursery.wandsworth.sch.uk)  
Website: [www.balham-nursery.wandsworth.sch.uk](http://www.balham-nursery.wandsworth.sch.uk)



## PARENT INFORMATION UPDATE – 2<sup>nd</sup> NOVEMBER 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

We hope that you and your families are all safe and healthy at home.

As many of you will know that following the recent briefing from the Prime Minister on Saturday evening, we will be entering a national lockdown from Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2020.

During the Prime Minister's briefing –it was made clear that schools, universities and colleges are to remain OPEN. This means that Balham Nursery will be open and we envisage that it will be 'business as usual'.

We continue to follow the Government's advice and will be in touch with you as soon as there is any change to the lockdown arrangements.

We know that during this lockdown we must, wherever possible, **Stay at home, Support the NHS and Save Lives**. Whilst it is frustrating that the future is unknown, it is much more important that everyone is healthy and safe. Please only leave home when it is absolutely necessary. If you wish to keep your children from attending nursery during this time – please do let us know.

We also need to take this opportunity to inform you about a confirmed case of Covid-19 at Balham. One of our staff members developed symptoms over the half term break and has subsequently tested positive.

We have taken advice from Public Health England, who have advised that as this case was confirmed over half term, and is 1 isolated case – that it does not require the entire school to close.

It is not a requirement for you and the members of your household to self-isolate for 14 days if you are not experiencing any symptoms.

I realise that this information will be worrying for you. The advice from the NHS 111 service is for you to carry on as normal and to monitor your children's and your own symptoms as follows:

- **a high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- **a new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- **loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

You can get advice about your symptoms from [NHS 111 online coronavirus service](https://www.nhs.uk/111/coronavirus)

If anyone in your household develops symptoms, please request a test <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

If you or your family display any of the listed symptoms of Coronavirus, you must feel able to share that information with us; your names will be kept in strict confidence.

If you get symptoms, then the instructions are:

- You will need to self-isolate for 10 days.
- Other people in your household will need to self-isolate for 14 days.

After 10 days:

- if you do not have a high temperature, you do not need to self-isolate
- if you still have a high temperature, keep self-isolating until your temperature returns to normal

Updated guidance for parents and carers is as follows:

### **What parents and carers need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak**

We have updated the guidance on [what parents and carers need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges during the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) outbreak](#) to include the latest information on self-isolation and shielding, who needs to get a test for coronavirus (COVID-19), face coverings, assessment and exams.

There has been many things published on-line to help support parents when talking to their children about coronavirus. You might find the following useful:

- An online book to help young children understand the current situation:  
<https://nosycrow.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Coronavirus-A-Book-for-Children.pdf>
- The creators of the Gruffalo, Julia Donaldson and Alex Scheffler, have also produced a series of Coronavirus cartoons, full of characters the children know and love.  
<https://www.theguardian.com/books/gallery/2020/apr/04/gruffalo-axel-scheffler-and-julia-donaldsons-coronavirus-cartoons>

The Government has recently published some advice for parents about helping children aged 2-4 learn at home during Coronavirus too:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/help-children-aged-2-to-4-to-learn-at-home-during-coronavirus-covid-19>

You can also visit [Hungry Little Minds](#): <https://hungrylittleminds.campaign.gov.uk/> for more ideas of fun things to do at home.

Remember, in these unusual times emotional well-being is paramount so above all else please just take time to breathe, relax, laugh and enjoy being together as a family.

If you have any further questions or concerns regarding this letter, please don't hesitate to call the office 020 8673 4055

Look after yourselves.

Best Wishes

Emma and the Leadership Team