

# Bersted Green Primary School

Laburnum Grove  
Bognor Regis  
West Sussex  
PO22 9HT



Telephone 01243 822885

Email: [office@berstedgreen.school](mailto:office@berstedgreen.school)

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2020

## Children sent home last week

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you will be aware last week we saw our first positive cases of Covid 19 in school. As a result of the positive test results we followed guidance and advised that children considered close contacts should be sent home to self-isolate.

We were then informed of two further cases in our school community and having taken advice from the Department for Education and Public Health England in regard to the number of staff and pupils needing to self-isolate, we made the difficult decision to close the school and move all children to remote learning.

I know that you may find this concerning, but we are continuing to monitor the situation and are working closely with the Local Authority, Public Health England and our Governing Board. School will reopen for children on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

If you have been advised that your child needs to self-isolate, then it is important that they stay at home.

It is important to note that the isolation periods have now changed, and contacts of cases (as well as those testing positive) now both need to isolate for ten days, when previously contacts had to isolate for fourteen. This applies to those who started isolating before today's date, when this comes into force.

The changes mean that day one of the ten period starts the day **after** a person's test, or the development of symptoms, or their last exposure to a person who has tested positive if they are a contact.

**This means Y4 and 5 children isolate until 18<sup>th</sup> December and Y1, Y2 and Y6 children until 20<sup>th</sup> December.**

**YR and Y3 children do not have to isolate.**

More information here

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-chief-medical-officers-statement-on-the-self-isolation-period-11-december-2020>

Please remember to:

- 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.

It is really important that you please let the school know by email to [office@berstedgreen.school](mailto:office@berstedgreen.school) if your child has a positive test result following the onset of symptoms in the last few days.

**Public Health England guidance states that 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.

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)

#### **Further Information**

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

Work is on the website or family members not isolating may pop in 9-11am this week for workbooks if needed.

Free school meal packs may be collected today.

Free school meal vouchers will be available this week and a text sent when they are available.

Any families who made a request for Christmas items when we sent out these letters - please collect them on Friday between 9 and 11am.

If your child needs something urgent they have left in school you can collect between 9 and 11am from tomorrow from the office.

I genuinely hope that with this timely action you can have the best Christmas possible and sincerely wish you a Merry Christmas.

*Katie* 

Katie Jarvis  
Headteacher