

Benhurst Primary School

Benhurst Avenue
Elm Park
Hornchurch
Essex
RM12 4QS

Tel: 01708 450807

Email: office@benhurst.havering.sch.uk

Website: www.benhurst.havering.sch.uk

Twitter: @BenhurstPrimary

Head teacher: Mr D. Denchfield BA (Hons) NPQH



Thursday 15th October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am sure you are aware of the considerable discussion and debate regarding additional measures that may be put in place as a result of increased COVID-19 cases in London. It has been widely reported that London may soon move from Tier 1 (medium alert) to Tier 2 (high alert). Below is a link to the government website which details what this would mean.

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

The current Tier 1, 2 and 3 guidelines allow schools to remain open, albeit with restrictions in place. For Benhurst, you are already familiar with our restrictions (year group bubbles, no sports clubs, no trips, staggered start time etc).

Within Havering, a growing number of schools have recently reported positive COVID-19 tests which has required part or all of the school to close at short notice. The decision to close a school is never easy and would be taken following consultation with Public Health England and the Department of Education. Although we have not had any reported positive tests, it is important that I make you aware of this possibility.

This week, we have seen a number of staff who have been contacted through Track & Trace and have needed to self-isolate until they received a negative test or have quarantined for the advised period. Contact can be made at any point of the day and we have needed to react quickly to these challenges. In most cases, the member of staff has been able to return to school within 2-3 days.

If there is any change to our school situation and a year group(s) or the whole school is required to close, we would send a text message to parents immediately to provide as much notice as possible. This would be followed up with a letter to provide further information. Online learning would be made available through Google Classroom (<https://classroom.google.com/h>) to support children's learning during any such enforced absence.

Please do get in contact if you have any concerns or questions.

Take care and stay safe.



Mr D Denchfield
Head teacher