

Hallsville

Primary School



Dear Parents,

Due to the announcement yesterday by the prime minister in regard to moving the country to level 4, I have sought advice from the DFE in regard to the school closing on Friday 17th December instead of the planned day of Tuesday 21st December. Due to the high/rising level of transmission in the area, this has been agreed.

I apologise for any inconvenience this may cause but feel the decision is best for the community.

School will remain open for the rest of the week and Friday 17th will be a normal full day.

In Newham we are asking everyone to help us all stay safe by:

1. **Getting all the necessary doses of vaccine when you and your children are eligible** – it will help protect you and those around you. Even with the arrival of this Omicron variant, having the full vaccine course will give you more protection than not having the vaccine. It's not too late to get your first dose of the vaccine, whenever you become eligible.

2. **Wear your face covering** or a medical mask:

- a. When you are visiting school
- b. When on public transport, in shops and other public spaces which are crowded or have limited airflow
- c. In health and care settings

3. **Get tested:**

- a. Twice a week with rapid tests (lateral flow tests). You can get these free from libraries and chemists.
- b. Test with a PCR if you have symptoms - and this can be any cold or flu symptoms.



Hallsville is part of Agate Momentum Trust, which is a charitable company limited by

guarantee and registered in England and Wales with registered number 11077761.

Its registered office is at Hallsville Primary School, Radland Road, Canning Town, E16 1LN.



What are the symptoms? With each new variant symptoms may change so act early if you have:

- COVID-19 classic symptoms - a raised temperature, a new cough, loss of or change to taste to smell
- DELTA symptoms - a runny nose, sore throat, headache, sneezing, loss of smell
- OMICRON symptoms may be different - excess tiredness, aches and pains, sore throat.

4. **Stay at home** if you test positive for COVID-19 or are a contact of someone with Omicron. **You will be advised by the UK Health Security Agency if there is a confirmed case of the Omicron variant.**

- a. If someone in your house has COVID-19 – but not Omicron – everyone should take a PCR test and if they are negative, you can go to work and your child can continue going to school.
- b. Your child should carry on attending school but take a daily lateral flow test while there is someone at home with COVID-19 – but not Omicron.
- c. There is still support in Newham to help you isolate/stay at home. Phone the COVID-19 helpline on 020 7473 9711

5. **Be Kind:** We know this is stressful and people react differently – if we support each other and work together we can get through winter with this new variant safely.

Information on where and how to get COVID-19 tests and book vaccinations is here:
<https://www.newham.gov.uk/coronavirus-covid-19/covid-19-advice-support>

Kind regards,

Keri Edge, Kelly Jones, Hannah Cleland.

