



**Thursday 21<sup>th</sup> January 2021**

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you are keeping well at this very difficult time. I would like to send my condolences to anyone who has lost someone close as a result of the pandemic. On Wednesday 20 January 2021, 38,905 new cases and 1,820 deaths within 28 days of a positive test were reported across the UK. Now, more so than ever, we must adhere to the government guidelines in order to keep p ourselves and our families safe.

Currently, the majority of pupils are accessing remote learning at home, with the exception of key worker children and those that have been identified as vulnerable who are being educated on site. Even though we are all working extremely hard and doing everything in our power to minimise the risks, we have unfortunately received 2 confirmed cases of Covid19 within our school community. In light of the new highly transmittable variant, I urge you to consider whether you really do need to utilise the school provision. Please remember that the expectation is for you to keep your child at home unless there are no other alternatives.

The link below provides more information about the current lockdown restrictions:  
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-lockdown-stay-at-home>

I would also remind you that if your child is attending the onsite provision, please inform the school if they develop symptoms, or if someone that they are in close contact with develop symptoms.

### **Remote learning**

Well done to all of our families who log into the live sessions daily! We have created a Remote learning expectation document which can be found on our school website. Please see the link below.

<http://www.leopoldprimary.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Expectations-Online-Learning-Jan-2021.pdf>

Phase leaders will be holding bi-weekly parent forums for parents and carers. The dates and times for these are shared on the remote learning platforms.

### **Attendance**

As per government guidelines, school attendance is mandatory. To achieve this please ensure that your child attend live sessions or the provision daily. If your child is unwell you must inform the school office on 020 8459 5654 or send an email [attendance@leopold.brent.sch.uk](mailto:attendance@leopold.brent.sch.uk) by 8:30am.

### **Leopold Food bank**

We will be holding our own foodbank here at Leopold. We are asking you to donate any non-perishable/essential items. These can be dropped off to both sites during the week. We will then invite families in need of support to come in and collect some essential on a **Friday between 1pm and 2pm**.

We thank you for your continued support.



## **Free school Meal Vouchers**

Children entitled to free school meals will be issued with a £15 voucher every week from Edenred. Remember to check your emails and update the school office if your details change.

The voucher scheme is separate to the Food bank.

## **Parent Forum**

We will be hosting our Spring Parent Forum on **Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2021**. The Forum will address the changes announced by the Department for Education to relationships and sex education (RSE). These changes were meant to come into effect from September 2020. However, due to the current pandemic, schools will need to have an updated RSE curriculum by the start of the summer term 2021. All schools will be required to comply with the updated requirements. This means that we will be reviewing and updating our RSE curriculum and policy so we can be sure our RSE provision is appropriate for our pupils based on their age; physical and emotional maturity; religious and cultural backgrounds; and special educational needs and/or disabilities.

## **Devices**

As stated in our previous newsletter, we have a number of families who are in need of a device. We are working closely with the DFE to provide more devices for families within the school. If you have a device that would like to donate to the school or if you are able to financially donate to this cause please contact the school office. We would like to say a massive thank you to everyone who have kindly donated money/devices to support the many families at Leopold Primary School during this pandemic.

## **Increasing data allowances scheme**

<https://get-help-with-tech.education.gov.uk/about-increasing-mobile-data>

This scheme temporarily increases data allowances for mobile phone users on certain networks. This is so that disadvantaged children and young people can access remote education if their face-to-face education is disrupted, and they do not have access to broadband at home. Schools, in England can request mobile data increases for disadvantaged children and young people in years 3 to 11 who are not able to attend school due to national lockdown restrictions. They must meet all 3 of these criteria:

- do not have fixed broadband at home
- cannot afford additional data for their devices
- are experiencing disruption to their face-to-face education

If you think you may be eligible for an increased data allow please contact the school office.

## **Hyperoptic offers free broadband packages for home-schooling**

Hyperoptic announced that it is offering a free broadband service to families who currently do not have a reliable broadband connection. The offer is available for local authority tenants in homes covered by Hyperoptic's network. It is being enabled via its partnerships with registered housing providers. The service will enable children who do not currently have access to adequate connectivity to easily access virtual education resources and learn from home.

*Are you eligible?*

- You must be living in a Hyperoptic-connected LA property



- A minimum of one school age child (under 18) living in the property
- You currently either have no fixed broadband in the home or you have an existing package that isn't reliable (e.g. an ADSL connection, or an FTTC package with download speeds of 30Mbps or less)

*How can you get connected?*

- Contact your local authority
- Call Hyperoptic on 0333 332 1111 quoting your promo code and your address
- Hyperoptic will book your free installation on a convenient date
- Our engineer will install your Hyperoptic connection and set up your free WiFi router

Further information can be found below.

<https://hyperoptic.com/press/posts/hyperoptic-offers-free-broadband-packages-for-home-schooling/>

## Music lessons



### Attune Together – Recorders

#### *Connecting families through music making*

**Always wanted to learn an instrument? Looking for meaningful ways to connect with your child at home? Fed up in lockdown?**

BMS is running weekly group lessons **ONLINE** for children to learn the recorder **alongside their parent/carer(s)**. The sessions will include recorder skills, music reading, games, partner/family activities, improvisation, composition and a range of musical styles. Ms Dykes will be running these sessions and they will be lots of fun! There may even be guest appearances from other BMS teachers!

We have sessions for complete beginners as well as “improvers” and can cater for children in Years 2-6. Classes start on 1st Feb and the **deadline to sign up is 27th Jan**.

More information can be found here:

<https://sites.google.com/view/bmsinformation/attune-recorders>

## What to do if your child is displaying symptoms of coronavirus (COVID 19)

Free and regular coronavirus tests are now available for everyone in Brent aged 12 upwards, even if you don't have symptoms.

If you don't have symptoms of COVID-19, you can book a free rapid Lateral Flow Test, with results available in less than 40 minutes.



This type of testing is being offered as part of a six-week pilot run by Brent Council with the Department for Health and Social Care, until 24 January 2021 when it will be reviewed. Use the link for more information.  
<https://www.brent.gov.uk/covidtesting>

Please remember that if **you, your child or anyone in your household** have symptoms of COVID 19 and are awaiting the results of a test, **do not** send your children into school. Children must remain at home until the results of the test have been given.

Before making the journey into school, you must stop and ask yourself these questions, do **you, your child or anyone in your household** have a new, continuous cough or a high temperature, or has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia).

If you answer YES to any of the above, you must not come to school. You must call 111 for advice.

If your child becomes unwell during the school day they will be sent home and are advised to follow the guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection.

This sets out that they must:

- self-isolate for at least 10 days
- arrange to have a test to see if they have coronavirus (COVID-19)

**If your child has:**  
a high temperature  
a new, continuous cough, or  
a loss of, or change in, sense of  
smell or taste

This could be a sign of  
coronavirus

**Book a test**

**If your child has:**  
a runny nose, is sneezing or  
feeling unwell  
**But they don't have:**  
a high temperature  
a new, continuous cough, or  
a loss of, or change in,  
sense of smell or taste

These are  
**not normally symptoms of  
coronavirus**

Seek advice from a pharmacy, dial  
111 or see your GP





Government  
Counter Fraud  
Function

GOV.UK/coronavirus



Counter Fraud Authority


# BE ALERT TO VACCINE FRAUD

**Criminals are using the COVID-19 vaccine as a way to target the public by tricking them to hand over cash or financial details. They are sending convincing-looking text messages letting people know they are eligible for the vaccine or phoning people directly pretending to be from the NHS, or local pharmacy.**

PEOPLE ARE WARNED TO BE ALERT TO THESE SCAMS

**The NHS will:**

- ⊗ NEVER ask for payment - the vaccine is free
- ⊗ NEVER ask for your bank details
- ⊗ NEVER arrive unannounced at your home to administer the vaccine
- ⊗ NEVER ask you to prove your identity by sending copies of personal documents such as your passport



FAKE



FAKE

## FURTHER GUIDANCE AND SUPPORT



National Cyber Security Centre

If you receive a call you believe to be fraudulent, hang up. If you are suspicious about an email you have received, forward it to [report@phishing.gov.uk](mailto:report@phishing.gov.uk). Suspicious text messages should be forwarded to the number **7726** which is free of charge.



**CrimeStoppers.**

If you believe you have been the victim of fraud or identity theft, you should report this directly to Action Fraud either online; [actionfraud.police.uk](http://actionfraud.police.uk) or via phone **0300 123 2040**.

If you have any information relating to vaccine fraud you can stay 100% anonymous by contacting Crimestoppers COVID Fraud Hotline online; [covidfraudhotline.org](http://covidfraudhotline.org) or phone **0800 587 5030**.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs N Obinwanne  
Head of School