

25.05.2021

Covid-19 Update

Dear Parents/Carers

Twixus currently has no known cases of covid-19 at the setting but has been informed by Public Health England that many of the surrounding Bromley Borough schools are currently experiencing increased cases including the new Indian Variant.

While the management at Twixus understands that common coughs, colds and high temperatures do occur and can be caused by reasons other than Covid, we are still under strict instructions by Public Health England and OFSTED to follow the procedures as below –

Child displaying symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19)

1. **Contact their parents or carers**
2. **A child must be sent home to isolate if they become unwell with any one or more of:**
 - a new, continuous cough
 - a high temperature
 - a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

The child should start isolating and get a test. The child and their household, should follow the ‘Stay at home guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19)’.

Settings should call the parents or carers to collect the child and take them home. Any siblings and other household members attending the early years setting will also need to be sent home at the same time.

Ask the parents or carers to arrange a test for the child

When parents or carers pick up the child, advise them to get the child tested to see if they have coronavirus (COVID-19). They should notify you of the results.

PHE have advised Early Years settings that the ‘Lateral Flow Home Testing Kits’ are not suitable to prove that a person does not have Covid. If a child has any of the symptoms (as above) a test must be completed at a National Health Test Centre which can be booked online. Lateral Flow Test results can be as low as 20 percent accurate and are recommended to detect signs from people that do not have symptoms. If a non-symptomatic person gets a positive result, then they must go to a National Health test centre to confirm their status.

We know that this can be very inconvenient to you and we hope you understand that we have to operate under the rules set out by the government. If your child has to follow the government procedure and tests negative at the Test Centre then they can return to Twixus if they are generally well and free of any contagious illness that could spread. Our sickness policy and parent contract confirm that fees are not adjusted during absence for sessions booked due to illness.

We hope that the government easing means that our sector can approach illness differently in the near future and that things get back to normal in the coming weeks and months.

Thank you for your cooperation



Marilyn Beal
Twixus Principal