

04.01.2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Twixus will remain open to all children during the current Tier 4 stage unless we are told to close the setting or groups by the Education Department or Public Health England.

The current Government strategy is to keep Early Years operating so that children can continue to develop and learn. Bromley Primary and secondary schools are open to Keyworker and Vulnerable children, currently the government intends to open schools to all children from the 18th January. Our School bus service will be available to children in line with the government rules.

Please wear a mask if you wish to talk to a member of staff and to continue to social distance while on site and around other parents. If your child can walk into nursery then we ask that they are encouraged to do so because this is the safest way to handover. If your baby or toddler has to be handed to a member of staff to carry at the gate, we ask that you are wearing a mask during the handover. Staff will be wearing a mask if they cannot keep a safe distance from parents/carers but masks will not be required in classrooms unless a child is displaying symptoms. You may be asked to phone the department to talk to a staff member if you do not have a mask or if it is busy and unsafe to talk to you immediately.

We are now in the season of colds and flu on top of the COVID-19 pandemic and request that you keep your child at home if they are unwell. The symptoms of the virus that we have been advised to look for are specifically a high temperature, continuous cough and loss of taste and smell. Please do not ask us to take any child that is not well as this is just not possible and risks spreading infections to other children and staff. If we are not sure your child's temperature will be taken at the gate, any high temperature (38' and above) will not be allowed to class and we might request that your child is tested for Covid-19 before they return. Children must not attend if any person around them has symptoms or is waiting for a Covid-19 test result. It is likely that we would have to close groups if we do not stick strictly to these guidelines and cases occur.

Children and adults around the child that have any symptoms must not come to Twixus and must follow the guidance as below.

As part of government guidelines regarding children returning to an EYFS setting, parents/carers must be ready and willing to:

- [book a test](#) if they or their child are displaying symptoms. Staff and pupils must not come into the setting if they have symptoms and will be sent home to self-isolate if they develop symptoms in setting. All children can be tested, including children under 5, but children aged 11 and under will need to be helped by their parents/carers if using a home testing kit. <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-getting-tested> www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test

- provide details of anyone they or their child have been in close contact with if they were to test positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) or if asked by NHS Test and Trace.
- [self-isolate](#) if they have been in close contact with someone who tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), or if anyone in their household develops symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19)

Anyone who displays symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) can and should get a test. Tests can be booked online through the NHS [testing and tracing for coronavirus](#) website, or ordered by telephone via NHS 119 for those without access to the internet.

If your child displays symptoms of coronavirus, please inform us as soon as possible and **DO NOT** send your child or their siblings to the setting.

We ask that parents immediately inform the main office of the results of any coronavirus tests. Please do not discuss results with your child's room staff. If your child is tested and if your child's results come back out of our open hours please email this information to twixus1@gmail.com

1. If someone tests negative, if they feel well and no longer have symptoms similar to coronavirus (COVID-19), they can stop self-isolating. They could still have another virus, such as a cold or flu – in which case it is still best to avoid contact with other people until they are better. Other members of their household can stop self-isolating.
2. If someone tests positive, they should follow the [guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#) and must continue to self-isolate for at least 10 days from the onset of their symptoms and then return to the setting only if they do not have symptoms other than cough or loss of sense of smell/taste. This is because a cough or anosmia can last for several weeks once the infection has gone. The 10-day period starts from the day when they first became ill. If they still have a high temperature, they should keep self-isolating until their temperature returns to normal. Other members of their household should continue self-isolating for the required time. Please contact 119 or Public Health England to check how long your household is advised to isolate and please do not return until the isolation period has been completed and your household is no longer contagious.

Please also continue to report absence in the usual way by calling our office (during operating times) or by emailing us at twixus1@gmail.com.

Again, thank you for your continued support. Take care and stay safe.

Warm regards



Marilyn Beal
Twixus Principal