

MAYESPARK PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Head teacher: Ms E Davies



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Dear Parent / Carer,

Thank you to all parents who are still testing children every day, or at least twice a week. We are still finding positive cases within school. As it stands we have **at least one case in 17 out of 27 classes**. Nationally, rates are going down but they are still rising in Redbridge. The local authority has advised that we keep our current risk assessments in place until cases begin to fall.

I have had requests from some parents to reinstate clubs for Jeffers class, and other parents requesting a move to remote learning for all children in Year one. I can understand the reasons on both sides but I must continue to make difficult decisions based on balancing the safety of children and staff in school and the quality of education provided to all children.

Jeffers class will not be able to access clubs until at least 31st January when hopefully we can have them back at clubs, if there have been no more positive cases.

We will keep classes open for learning in school as this is the best for children's education but I will continue to ask for lateral flow tests and will insist on PCR tests if children show symptoms.

According to research* the top five symptoms in school aged children who test positive for COVID are;

- fatigue (55%)
- headache (53%)
- fever (49%)
- sore throat (38%)
- and loss of appetite (35%)

They also found that 33% of children show no symptoms at all, which makes lateral flow testing very important. Please see the below link which will enable you to order some more Lateral Flow Tests. You can order more than one box especially if you have a larger household it is certainly worth doing this.

Order your lateral flow tests here: [Order coronavirus \(COVID-19\) rapid lateral flow tests - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-covid-19-rapid-lateral-flow-tests)
(www.gov.uk)

Thank you for your continued co-operation.

Yours faithfully

Ms E Davies
Headteacher

* ZOE COVID Study, created by doctors and scientists working in partnership with ZOE – a health science company. The research is led by Prof. Tim Spector, professor of genetic epidemiology at King's College London

