

**Hackney Education**

Hackney Council

1 Reading Lane

Hackney

London

E8 1GQ

Parents and Carers  
Hackney Primary Settings

020 8820 7000

[info.education@hackney.gov.uk](mailto:info.education@hackney.gov.uk)

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Dear Parent/Carer,

We are writing to you in advance of next Monday, when children in Hackney will start to return to school on a phased basis, to outline how we are working together to ensure it is as safe as possible for children to return.

These past few months have been incredibly tough for everyone, but we would like to thank you for supporting your child's education as best you can while they have stayed at home to slow the spread of coronavirus, and thank students for doing their best during an extremely difficult time - we are proud of the efforts they have put in to continue learning.

We also want to express our appreciation of the great work which school staff have been doing over this period.

Coronavirus has had a huge impact on education, particularly for children whose circumstances mean it is much harder to learn at home. This is why it's so important to get schools open in as safe a way as possible as quickly as possible.

Your school has put in place comprehensive Covid-secure risk assessments and associated procedures to ensure that students can return safely to school.

As part of new government measures to ensure pupils safely return to schools, all primary school and nursery staff in the borough will be offered testing twice a week using home testing kits.



Through this regular testing, we are ensuring increased safety in welcoming more primary school pupils and staff back as part of the phased return from Monday 8 March.

Secondary school students will be asked to complete three tests on their return to school. If you also have children in secondary school, it's vital that you isolate as a household if they, or your primary age child, receive a positive result. This is so we can keep as many students at school as possible, seeing their friends, and getting back to learning at school.

The council is working with all schools across the borough on guidance about the return. I'd urge parents and students to follow the guidance given to you by your school so everyone can start to enjoy normal learning as soon as possible.

The Council's education and public health teams are hosting a webinar on Wednesday 3 March at 5pm for parents who wish to find out more about the return to school, testing and the measures that have been in place to keep students safe. Sign up at: [bit.ly/returntoschoolwebinar](https://bit.ly/returntoschoolwebinar).

With all best wishes,



**Cllr. Anntoinette Bramble**  
Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for  
Education, Young People and Children's  
Social Care



**Annie Gammon**  
Director of Education  
Hackney Education