

26th August 2020

PLAISTOW POST

NEWS UPDATES FROM PLAISTOW PRIMARY SCHOOL

A welcome from the new Head Teacher...

Hello to all at Plaistow Primary School and Children's Centre and welcome back to the start of a new school year. For some of you, it will have been a very long time since you have been to school- I know all the staff are looking forward to seeing you again!

I am delighted to taking up the Headship of such a successful and inclusive school. I was born in Canada but moved to the UK to train as a teacher in Exeter. I was only meant to stay in England for one year but ended up moving here permanently! I started my teaching career in London and have worked as a teacher and leader across schools in Tower Hamlets and Southwark.

I have very quickly learned what a special place Plaistow Primary School and Children's Centre is. I'm looking forward to working with all you to build on what makes the school so brilliant already and look for ways to develop it even further.

The past months have been very strange and difficult for all of us. Staying away from family and friends, wearing face masks on transport and in shops and sometimes having to queue for a very long time at the supermarket- we have all had to adjust to a huge amount of change in order to keep each other safe. It is now more important than ever that we come together as a school community, be kind and look after one another.

All the children, even the ones who were lucky enough to come to school in the last few weeks of the Summer term, have missed out on a significant amount of valuable learning and- just as importantly- have missed out on a chance to smile, laugh and play with their friends. It is up to all of us to help them catch up with missed learning and support them in reconnecting with all those in our school community.

All the staff at Plaistow have been working incredibly hard to make sure that the school is a safe place to learn and play. Some things will have stayed the same as they always have been, whereas some things have needed to change. On the next page I have outlined some of the health and safety measures that we have taken to look after all those at Plaistow. If we all stick together and work as a team, everyone can stay safe and healthy as we begin an exciting new year of learning.

I'm looking forward to meeting all of you, so make sure to come say hello at the school gates or in the playground. I will do my best to learn everyone's names as quickly as possible.

All the best,

Dean Benoit

Head Teacher, September 2020



The school will be open to **all** year groups and it is vital that **all** pupils attend each day unless they are ill. There is a lot of learning to catch up on.

The following precautions have been put in place to reduce the spread of germs including the Covid-19 virus:

	All adults and children must walk through the main entrance of the school on Eastern Road. This includes pupils in the EYFS and KS1. Please do not congregate outside the main door. Keep walking onto the main playground and maintain a social distance between you and those around you.
	When you are on the playground please maintain a social distance from others around you. Please do not walk into your child's classroom or try to speak to their teacher in the morning.
	Please drop your child off as quickly as possible and do not congregate in the school playground. Keep walking to exit through the EYFS gate . At the end of the day collect your child as you normally would using the signage posted to know where to stand. Leave the playground and exit by the EYFS gate.
	There will be members of the Senior Leadership team at the main school doors, gates and on the playground if you have any important questions. Please try your best to maintain a social distance when you speak to them.
	Parents and visitors are not allowed in the school building at this time. If you would like to make appointment to speak to someone, please email the school office. Class Teachers or Senior Leaders will ring if they need to speak to you.
	Pupils will be taught in year group bubbles. The bubbles will not mix with each other during the school day and stairwells will be one-directional to support this. There are signs throughout the building to help children know where it is safe to walk and adults will help remind them.
	Extra time will be given throughout the school day to ensure that pupils wash their hands correctly or use hand sanitiser. Hand sanitiser stations have been placed throughout the school and outside the dining hall.
	Breaktimes will be staggered so that phases and bubbles are kept separate on the playground. On PE days children should come to school wearing their PE kit . No changing will take place at school. Information about our school uniform and PE kit can be found on the school website. https://plaistow.newham.sch.uk/
	Children will use their own pens, pencils and rulers (resources will still be supplied by the school however). Other resources will only be shared within the class bubble. Any resources used by more than one bubble will be appropriately cleaned after use.
	Lunchtimes will be staggered so that phases and bubbles are kept separate in the dining hall and on playground. Children will wash or sanitise their hands before they eat. Children should bring a water bottle from home for use in their classroom. Water bottles can also be purchased from the school.
	There will be enhanced cleaning by our staff and premises team throughout the school day. The toilets and all touch points (door handles, switches and handrails) will be cleaned four times per day.
	Breakfast Club will still continue but phase and year group bubbles will be kept separate in the hall. Please wait for further information regarding after school clubs.

Website: <https://plaistow.newham.sch.uk> • Twitter: @PlaistowPrimary • Telephone: 020 8548 5620

Email: info@plaistow.newham.sch.uk

If we believe, we can achieve



DO YOU HAVE CORONAVIRUS SYMPTOMS? GET TESTED & ISOLATE

Walk through testing is now available in East Ham for anyone over 5 years old with Coronavirus symptoms and is unable to use drive through testing facilities.

How: To book, visit www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test or call **119** between **7am-11pm** (7 days a week)

If you need support with testing or isolating please contact **020 7473 9711** covidhelp@community-links.org (1-7pm, 7 days a week)

THE MAIN SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19

- A high temperature
- Or a new, continuous cough
- Or a loss or change in sense of taste or smell

If you have any of these symptoms, get yourself tested.

While you are waiting for your appointment or your test result, **you and everyone in your household must stay home** to prevent the spread of the infection.

Book a test: www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test or call **119**

When attending the test centre you must wear a face covering and not travel by public transport.

www.newham.gov.uk/coronavirus

