



Loving to learn, Learning to love.  
For every child a chance to shine



LAYSTON C of E FIRST SCHOOL  
The Causeway, Buntingford, Herts. SG9 9EU  
Tel: 01763 271235 Email: [admin@layston.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@layston.herts.sch.uk)

Headteacher: Mrs A McMurrough

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Dear Parents and Carers,

### Testing in Primary Schools:

Following the launch of rapid asymptomatic coronavirus (COVID-19) testing in secondary schools and colleges on 4 January, staff in primary, school-based nurseries and maintained nursery schools are also being offered the opportunity to take part in regular asymptomatic testing. This means that all staff at Layston will be offered the opportunity to take part in this testing, but this is not mandatory.

Once we are in receipt of our test kits, staff hope to begin testing next week. Should a positive case be reported in school, we may need to close bubbles at short notice and so as before you should always have alternative childcare provision in place. The robust systems of control continues to be rigorously applied to enable the safest possible environment.

### Achievements:

During the autumn term 2020 our school participated in the Herts Virtual School Games events. Congratulations to our Year 3 who won overall in the virtual cross country event. Well done to Neve and Joe who came first in the girls and boys races. Your medals will be waiting for you when you return to school. The rest of the team will receive a certificate.

### Mental Health and Well-being:

Mrs Betley has updated her video for parents on the mental health and well-being section of the website to include latest advice on supporting you and your child.

### Covid 19:

**Remember as soon as your child or any member of your household develops symptoms, they must start self-isolating immediately and book a test. Main symptoms of coronavirus are:**

- a high temperature (37.8 deg C or more)
- a new, continuous cough - this means coughing a lot, for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
- a loss or change to sense of smell or taste - this means they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

If you're not sure whether symptoms suggest that they have COVID-19 or an everyday cough or cold, you can consult this online NHS symptom checker: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/>





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**If your child is attending school please do not send children in to school if any of the following apply:**

- they have symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19)
- they, or any members of your household, have tested positive for COVID-19
- they haven't completed the full 10 day isolation period requested

Self-isolating is one of the most important things we can all do to help stop the spread of the virus and protect our loved ones and the vulnerable. You can read our helpful self-isolating guide at: [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/selfisolatingguide](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/selfisolatingguide)

If you or your family are affected by COVID-19 and need support locally with things like shopping, getting medication or financial advice, visit: [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/coronavirus)

Have an enjoyable weekend and stay safe.

Best wishes  
Adele McMurrough  
Headteacher