



# Downs View

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4<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Dear Parent/Carers,

## **Return to School and Downs View Woodingdean Building Works**

I hope you have had a lovely summer and have been able to enjoy the good weather.

We are really looking forward to welcoming all pupils back to school after such a challenging summer term. Staff returned on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> September and we have updated essential training.

Pupils will begin their phased return to school from Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September/Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> September. You should have received information at the end of last term about the phased start for your child. This time will be really important to ensure that all pupils have the opportunity to settle safely back into school and begin to access onsite learning. We will also be able to support the transitions for pupils to new classes, teachers or sites and ensure that their social and emotional needs are met after what has been a very long absence for many of the pupils.

If your child has school transport then you will have been contacted by the team to let you know the details of the driver and pick up times.

Currently the Covid risk in Brighton and Hove is low but all the safety measures established last term will remain in place to ensure that the risk continues to remain low. We will remain alert to any changes in the 'R' rate and will keep you informed if there are any changes.

Please also find attached in this Ping a letter from Alistair Hill that explains the measures being supported by the local authority to ensure that all pupils can return safely to school.

The school risk assessment that was sent out last term is a dynamic document and has been updated as of the 1<sup>st</sup> September. The updated version can be accessed on the school website:  
<http://www.downsview.brighton-hove.sch.uk/about-us/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Also, in order to ensure that we keep Covid secure we will not be having any additional visitors to any of our sites. Unfortunately, this will include parents but we will keep this under review.

It is still the case that if you, your child or anyone in your household has or has had any of the following symptoms then you must adhere to the government guidance. If your child has had symptoms they must **isolate for 7 days** from when they first showed symptoms. If anyone else in your household has had symptoms **your child must isolate for 14 days**. It is vital that you stick to this guidance in order not to put other children/young people or staff at risk.

### **Symptoms:**

- **high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back
- **new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)



- **loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Most people with coronavirus have at least one of these symptoms.

I am aware that some of you may have questions and concerns about the return to school. Our Heads of Site are available to help, so please do get in touch with them in the first instance. Their details are as follows:

**Downs View Woodingdean**

*Bea Freeborn* - 01273 601680 / [beatrizfreeborn@downsview.brighton-hove.sch.uk](mailto:beatrizfreeborn@downsview.brighton-hove.sch.uk)

**Downs View Hollingdean**

*Jackie Hutchings* – 01273 558622 / [jackiehutchings@downsview.brighton-hove.sch.uk](mailto:jackiehutchings@downsview.brighton-hove.sch.uk)

**Downs View Link College**

*Juliet Hudson* - 01273 507719 / [juliethudson@downsview.brighton-hove.sch.uk](mailto:juliethudson@downsview.brighton-hove.sch.uk)

**Downs View Life Skills College**

*Raul Ortiz* – 01273 551028 / [raulortiz@downsview.brighton-hove.sch.uk](mailto:raulortiz@downsview.brighton-hove.sch.uk)

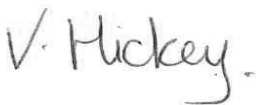
The extensive building work on the school site is going well. Some of the new classrooms and the new hall have been handed over to us for the start of term which is very exciting.

Over the next few weeks we will start to plan for the transition of the Hollingdean pupils and staff to the new site. We will provide more information on this when we are aware of the time scales for these transitions.

Please can you ensure that if your child has emergency medication that this is sent into school/college with them on their first day.

I hope you all have an enjoyable weekend. Thank you for your support and understanding during this time.

Yours Sincerely,



Vanessa Hickey  
Executive Headteacher