



Downs View

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11th September 2020

Dear Parent and Carers,

Return to School - General Updates

I hope you have all had a good week. The return to school/college has gone really well and home to school transport has been running smoothly. It has been wonderful to welcome the majority of our pupils back on site and we have been delighted with how they have adapted to the changes in school/college.

From Monday I am glad to say that we will be recommencing short trips out on the minibus. For the time being this will only be to open air spaces such as local parks. We have issued our staff with updated guidance to ensure that these trips remain Covid secure, but if you have any queries regarding this please contact your class teacher in the first instance.

You may be aware that there has been some particularly disturbing content circulating on social media this week. Please see below a link to the NSPCC and Think u know, as they both have some very clear support messages for a range of online safety including inappropriate content:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/inappropriate-explicit-content/>

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>

It looks like the hot weather will be returning next week so please could I remind you all to apply suncream to your child before sending them into school/college. This is particularly important during these Covid times to minimise physical contact.

As always, please remain aware of the coronavirus guidance. A reminder is included at the end of this letter.

I would like to thank everyone for their support and understanding in helping us to manage new procedures and routines.

Have an enjoyable weekend.

Yours Sincerely,

Vanessa Hickey
Executive Headteacher



A reminder of the Current Coronavirus Guidance

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.