



# Downs View

Executive Headteacher: Vanessa Hickey

Warren Road  
Woodingdean  
Brighton BN2 6BB

Telephone: 01273 601680  
Email: [office@downsview.brighton-hove.sch.uk](mailto:office@downsview.brighton-hove.sch.uk)  
[www.downsview.brighton-hove.sch.uk](http://www.downsview.brighton-hove.sch.uk)

23<sup>rd</sup> April 2021

Dear Parent and Carers,

I hope you all had an enjoyable break and welcome back to the start of the Summer Term. It is great to be back to a busy school and seeing all the pupils. The playground has been very well used as the sunshine has been out. We will be working this term to develop our forest area which will give us another great learning resource. We also have lots of other exciting things to look forward to in the term ahead.

## **Learning Targets and Progress Meetings**

The new learning targets are being worked on now and will be sent out before the progress meetings. The dates are as follows:

Downs View School – 26<sup>th</sup> May  
Downs View Link College – 5<sup>th</sup> May  
Downs View Life Skills College – 5<sup>th</sup> May

The plan is for these to take place in person on the school/college site. I know how hard it has been not being able to visit school/college and see where your child is every day. I appreciate that there are different vulnerabilities for different families so these meetings can also be done virtually if you prefer.

## **Covid & The School Risk Assessment**

The local rate of infection in Brighton has gone down significantly and is continuing to decrease which is really positive. I have updated our school risk assessment following the guidance that has been received from the Government and an updated version will be uploaded to the website.

Also as lots of our staff have had the vaccine and are doing the lateral flow tests twice weekly we will be reviewing the bubbles with the aim of expanding them to give us some more flexibility around staffing.

## **Minibus Trips**

I am glad to say that we are now able to resume 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.



## **Staffing News**

Matthew Tugwell will be leaving Downs View this Friday. Matthew has worked as a teaching assistant for us since the merger took place in 2018. I would like to wish Matthew all the best in his future career.

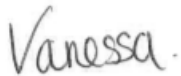
On Wednesday we held interviews for two apprentice teachers to join us in our Primary department and both Nikki Woolven and Megan Williams were successful. They are both currently working as teaching assistants with us so it is great that they are able to move into these roles. Their apprenticeships start on the 6<sup>th</sup> June. Congratulations to both of them.

## **Sensory Room**

Thanks to some funding from the Rockinghorse charity we have been able to install a new sensory room at the school site. The work on this was completed in the Easter break and it is now being used by many of our pupils. Please look out for some photos in the next newsletter.

Have a lovely weekend and enjoy the sunshine.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Vanessa".

Vanessa Hickey  
Executive Headteacher