



Downs View

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Dear Parent and Carers,

Positive Covid Case

Unfortunately I am writing to you to report that we have a member of staff who has tested positive for Covid-19. I have been made aware of the case this morning and we have had to isolate all staff and pupils that had contact. You will have been contacted directly if it affects your child. I am really sorry as for these pupils it will mean that they will not return to college this term. This is particularly difficult as many of the pupils being isolated are in their final days here, it is so disappointing and not what we had hoped for the end of term.

I appreciate how challenging this is for families affected by the class closures. We will be in touch with you to look at how we can support you with online learning. Please do contact us if there is anything else we can do to support you.

At the moment the infection rate in Brighton and Hove is rising and we are seeing the impact of this on all of our sites. I know many of you will be concerned about this so I understand if you feel that your child would be safer at home. We are continuing to take precautions but also have to acknowledge that many general restrictions have been lifted and will be lifted more fully from the 19th July. We will continue to put measures in place on all of our sites to minimise the risk of infection.

If your child shows any of the symptoms detailed below then please keep them at home and if possible, take them for a PCR test.

If you have any immediate concerns please contact the Deputy Head at your site or me via email. Our email addresses are on our website. We will also be posting key messages on our website and through School Ping.

With my very best wishes,

Vanessa

Vanessa Hickey
Executive Headteacher



Covid-19 Guidance

Please remember that it is still the case that if you, your child or anyone in your household feel unwell or have any symptoms of Covid-19 then you must stay at home and get a test. Further details can be found here <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Anyone with symptoms will be eligible for a PCR test (the normally available test type) and this can be arranged via <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test> If you have problems or cannot use the online service, call 119. Lines are open 7am to 11pm.

The most important symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of any of the following:

- **a 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)
- **a high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back
- **a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell** – 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.

For most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness. However, if you have any of the symptoms above you must stay at home and arrange to have a test to see if you have COVID-19. If your child has had symptoms they must **isolate for 10 days** from when they first showed symptoms. If anyone else in your household has had symptoms **your child must isolate for 10 days**. It is vital that you stick to this guidance in order not to put other children/young people or staff at risk.