



Downs View

Executive Headteacher: Vanessa Hickey

Warren Road
Woodingdean
Brighton BN2 6BB

Telephone: 01273 601680
Email: office@downsview.brighton-hove.sch.uk
www.downsview.brighton-hove.sch.uk

9th July 2021

Dear Parent and Carers,

Positive Covid Case

Unfortunately I am writing to you to report that we have another member of staff who has tested positive for Covid-19. I was informed of the case last night and we have isolated all staff and pupils that had contact. You will have been contacted directly if it affects your child.

I appreciate how challenging this week has been for families affected by class closures. We have a high number of staff who need to isolate and this is having an impact on our staffing levels. We are working really hard to manage the disruption to pupils whilst ensuring we also manage the risk of infection.

Next week we will have to close some classes as we do not have enough staff to safely meet their needs. We will also have to have some pupils on part-time placements. If your child is affected by this then we will be in touch separately and the class teachers will contact you directly about the online learning offer. I am really sorry about this, it is not a decision that I have taken lightly. This was not what we had hoped for the end of term.

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.