



Downs View

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Dear Parents and Carers,

We are nearly at the end of term and it has been lovely to see some of the Christmas activities that have been happening in classes. It has been disappointing that Covid has impacted on some of the events that we had planned but our young people have still enjoyed those that were able to take place. As we finish for the holiday it is saddening that Covid rates are growing again. I hope all of you stay well over the break and I hope those families and staff that are currently unwell recover quickly.

Update to the Covid Guidance

The guidance around what to do if you have contact with a positive case of Covid has changed. Please see as follows:

- Following a positive contact anyone over the age of 5 is advised to do daily lateral flow tests for 7 days.
- There is no need to go for a PCR following a positive contact or to self-isolate.
- If your young person is aged over 18 years and 6 months and is not fully vaccinated they will need to self-isolate following a positive contact.

If your young person is displaying symptoms then you will need to book a PCR. The lateral flow tests are not as reliable if a person has symptoms.

Return to School/College

School and College starts again on **Tuesday 4th January**. We will be asking all staff to do a lateral flow test before they return. If your young person is able to tolerate it then we would advise that they do a lateral flow test before they return. If there are any changes to the guidance during the break then we will send out a letter via ping but we are not currently expecting any changes.

I would like to thank all of the staff on all sites for their ongoing hard work.

I hope you all have a relaxing and enjoyable Christmas.

Take care

Vanessa

Vanessa Hickey
Executive Headteacher

