

September 2021

To parents and carers of children at our schools

Dear Parent/Carer

We are very pleased to welcome you to the new academic year. After a difficult period with the pandemic, there is much to anticipate – not least, face-to-face, high-quality education for all pupils.

We must, however, acknowledge that Covid-19 and especially the highly infectious Delta variant remains with us. Thanks to the effectiveness of the vaccine the government has, of course, removed all restrictions in day-to-day life, but in schools we need to continue to remain vigilant.

Your individual school will be in touch separately if they have any specific requirements they need you to follow. The government has made it clear it is for headteachers, who are closest to their own communities, to assess the levels of risk and respond accordingly.

In general, all our schools will continue to follow government guidance and there are updates to procedure that we need to tell you about:

- If your child is a contact of someone who contracts the virus, there is no longer a requirement for them to self-isolate. We will still advise parents/carers but ask you to monitor your child's health and seek a PCR test if you are concerned.
- If your child develops symptoms they should not come into school and you should arrange for a PCR test. If positive, isolate for 10 days.
- If anyone in any of our schools presents symptoms, however mild, they will be sent home. You will appreciate schools will have little option in these circumstances and it will give you the opportunity to arrange a PCR test for your child.

Schools will continue to maintain enhanced cleaning regimes to ensure good hygiene for everyone and we will keep occupied spaces well ventilated.

While the Covid situation has eased, we are aware this remains a stressful time for many people and we want to work with you to allay any concerns. Please contact your school directly to talk through your worries.

We look forward to seeing the children back in their classrooms.

Yours faithfully



Mrs Gail Brown
Chief Executive and Executive Headteacher