

6 September 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

We hope that you and your children had a relaxing summer holiday and are settling back into the school routine. We really value the support that you give to your children and their education. As we begin the new school year, we want to ensure that everyone makes a positive start to the year and can get the most out of their learning.

Headteachers and Principals have worked with their staff to get ready for the school year and to welcome children back to the classroom. Good attendance at school and college is important for successful learning and it also provides wider benefits for your child's development and wellbeing. Getting children and young people into good school habits now will help them maintain this throughout the year.

The national approach continues to be that we are 'living with COVID-19'. Schools and colleges adapted to this during the spring and summer last year and you will be used to what this means. There are simple things you can do to help reduce the spread of COVID-19 and other respiratory infections (such as flu). This will help to keep everyone in school and also to protect those at highest risk. These include:

- Getting yourself and your children vaccinated (including Autumn COVID-19 booster where eligible)
- Practising good hygiene such as washing your hands and following advice to 'Catch it, Bin it, Kill it'
- Consider wearing a face covering in crowded, enclosed spaces
- Following [guidance](#) for people with symptoms of a respiratory infection including COVID-19, or those with a positive COVID-19 test result.

The guidance says that children or young people (aged 18 or under) who test positive for COVID-19 should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 3 days. This starts from the day after they did the test.

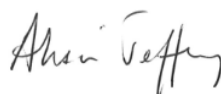
Thank you for your continued support for your child's education, particularly through the last few years where the challenges of COVID-19 have been difficult for us all.

We look forward to a positive year ahead.

Yours faithfully



Darrell Gale FFPH  
Director of Public Health



Alison Jeffery  
Director of Children's Services