

ABBOT'S LEA SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mrs Ania Hildrey, M.Ed, B.Ed(Hons), NPQH



7 July 2021

Dear Families

Ref: Covid-19 Delta variant – families' concerns and our support

I am writing to you today following a number of families expressing their worries to me about the spread of the Delta variant in our school and also in the community and the impact it might have on their children and their family.

Regrettably, these anxieties are well-placed in in so far as the numbers are, indeed, rising at an alarming rate, resulting in positive cases being diagnoses amongst the staff and the students alike. This, as per the current governmental guidance, results in self-isolation requirement for those directly affected and others who are confirmed to have been in a close direct contact with the diagnoses person.

Whilst we will always promote our students' attendance at school, as the circumstances are of such concern to many, I did not want to ignore them. Instead, I want to work proactively in partnership with the families who would rather, for this and next week, keep their children at home.

If, however, it is your preference to keep your child at home, please inform us as soon as possible by contacting reception@abbotsleaschool.co.uk and we will provide remote learning opportunities for your child this week and next week, with a view of supporting their Transition Week programme remotely. This approach might minimise the risk of infection, and would minimise the risk of a school-related self-isolation, which if advised, would inevitably affect the first weeks of the school holidays (for which some of you have plans).

If you do decide to keep your child at home, please note that their attendance would be marked as X (a Covid attendance code), and as such, it would not count as absence triggering concerns. To clarify, we would not escalate to the Local Authority our concerns about such parental decisions as the current circumstances are, in my professional judgment, extraordinary and beyond our control.

This letter focuses on this one group of families and so, please disregard this letter if you are happy to continue sending your child to school – we are here until 16 July!

Yours sincerely

Mrs A Hildrey
Headteacher