**Children's Services** 

Alison Jeffery

Director of Children's Services

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24 March 2022

**Dear Parents and Carers** 

## **Covid Pandemic**

We hope this letter finds you and your families well.

We would like to thank you for your continued support for our schools. We are now in a different phase of the covid pandemic with previous restrictions lifted and different expectations for us all. However, rates of infection are still high in some parts of the county, and this does create some challenges. There are schools with higher than usual numbers of staff off work because of illness, either for themselves or their own families. This means that you may still experience some disruption to your child's learning into the summer term.

Schools are working very hard to minimise the impact of staff absence for your child's learning. We would ask that you continue to show understanding and patience for our schools. Your support is so important in creating a positive learning environment for everyone. Schools will continue to work closely with their families but, due to the current pressures with staffing, may not respond to your phone calls and emails as quickly as they would like to at the present time.

If you do need to see someone at your child's school, please arrange an appointment with them so that this can be fitted in around their teaching and other commitments. Positive feedback when schools get it right for you is always appreciated!

Schools are continuing to ensure that they minimise the level of transmission of covid and it's important that everyone, including children, maintains good hand hygiene to help with this. Schools are a safe place for children, and it is important that they attend regularly. This is really important for their learning and so that they can enjoy the opportunities at school to meet with their friends, play sport and participate in all the other activities that schools offer.

We are all looking forward to the warmer days that the spring and summer will bring, and the opportunity to be outside more will be of benefit to all our health and wellbeing.

Thank you for ongoing support.

Yours sincerely

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