

Education, Communities & Organisational Development

Moray Council
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Dear Parent/Carer

As we move out of lockdown and in to level 3 with enhanced protective measures I write to you all once again to reiterate the mitigations in place in schools to reduce the risks of the spread of Covid-19 as well as to remind everyone of the need to adhere to the measures in place now within communities.

Unfortunately we have seen an increase in the number of positive lateral flow tests (LFT) over the last week or so which have then resulted in positive polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests. A number of these are related to young people which is both unfortunate but also alarming and is having an impact on a few schools at this time.

When a positive test is confirmed, the Head Teacher and other colleagues are involved in a lengthy risk assessment process with Public Health (PH) colleagues to identify any close contacts. We are assured by PH colleagues that the mitigations in place in our schools are robust and that transmission is community related. In addition, there is increased and enhanced cleaning undertaken across all of our school buildings. As a reminder key expectations are:

- Bring face coverings to school and wearing them at all times
- Regular hand sanitising and handwashing
- Undertaking lateral flow tests on a Sunday and Wednesday, preferably around tea-time
- Adherence to physical distancing when out of school

Out of school, expectations are:

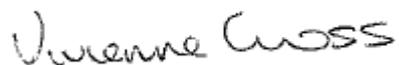
- Indoor socialising with those outside your household in private homes is still not permitted (this includes sleepovers)
- Six people from up to six households may meet outdoors
- Large gatherings continue to be discouraged unless for life events eg weddings, funerals and receptions which increase to 50

We totally understand that the extended restrictions are difficult particularly where the weather improved over the weekend and as we move through term 4 to the summer break, however if we do not all work together and follow the advice, unfortunately we will see the impact on the day to day running of our schools and disruption to learning. We would ask that you please remind and encourage your child(ren) to follow expectations. In addition, if your child(ren) have any of the symptoms of Covid-19 ie high temperature, loss or change to your sense of taste or smell, a new continuous cough or even a runny nose and feeling unwell, they should

remain at home and you should seek medical advice so that Covid-19 can be ruled out or alternatively, any potential spread is reduced.

We all want young people to be in school at this time and to be able to continue their learning. Your support and help with this is much appreciated by us all.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Vivienne Cross". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Vivienne Cross
Head of Education (Chief Education Officer)