

Believe to Achieve

12th February 2021

Dear Parents / Carers

I hope this letter greets all families safe and well.

Before I explain the details regarding Covid Tracking I would just like to say a big thank you to all parents and pupils for your engagement in remote learning in whatever capacity that has been. Some pupils are on-line for every lesson, some pupils are sending work into teachers and some are doing paper copies of learning packs. Whatever you have managed to do with your pupils we are all extremely grateful.

As a parent myself, remote learning is far from easy and at times depending on your broadband it can be a nightmare. The bonus is that somehow we stay connected to your pupils and continue with learning. I hope we do not have to continue for too much longer as obviously face-face education is better and more personal.

Boris Johnson will make an announcement on February 22nd which hopefully will give us some clarity as to whether we are back to reopening on March 8th and which year groups. I will be in touch after this announcement to share with you our plans.

February Half Term – COVID Tracking

We will close for the February half-term on Friday 12th February 2021 and reopen to the vulnerable children and children of critical (key) workers on Monday 22nd February 2021 who have previously attended.

The Department for Education and Public Health England expect schools to continue having procedures in place for contact tracing over the February half term break.

In response to this, we will implement the same procedure we had in place for contact tracing over the period of the Christmas break. If your child, who attended school between Monday 8th February 2021 and Friday 12th February 2021, tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) or develops symptoms within 48 hours of being in school (this means if a pupil, learner or staff member develops symptoms between Friday 12th February and Sunday 14th February 2021 and subsequently tests positive), you should notify the school/academy by email as soon as possible.

The school/academy will then complete the relevant contact tracing process with Public Health England and notify any other children or staff who have been close contacts and need to self-isolate.

In order to notify us, please send an email to: – Kates Hill Primary School at info@kates-hill.dudley.sch.uk

Where a pupil/learner or staff member tests positive for COVID-19, having developed symptoms more than 48 hours since being in school (this means any person developing symptoms after Sunday 14th February) the school/academy does not need to be contacted.

Parents and carers should follow contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace. If any member of the household develops COVID-19 symptoms, they must start self-isolating immediately and book a test. Please do not send children back to nursery or school if any of the following apply:

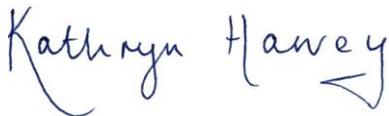
- They have symptoms of COVID-19.
- They, any members of your household, or any close contacts (including extended family or friends they have seen and bubbles at half-term activities and sports clubs) have tested positive for COVID-19.
- They haven't completed the full 10-day isolation period requested.

If you or your family are affected by COVID-19 and need support locally with things like shopping, getting medication or financial advice, visit the Local Authority website for support.

Please take good care.

We are all missing your children so much and cannot wait to get back to some normality.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kathryn Harvey". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large 'K' and a long tail on the 'y'.

Kathryn Harvey
Headteacher

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