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Dear parent/carer

The reopening of all schools across Kirklees has been hugely positive for thousands of children and families. Attendance levels are good and many schools have told us how thrilled they are to have their pupils and staff back together after several months.

These are, of course, extremely difficult times for schools around the country. There has been a vast amount of guidance from central government and, as you know, Covid-19 measures are in place to keep everyone as safe as possible. We can assure you that all Kirklees schools have their own risk assessments and have taken every step they can to reduce risk. We hope your child has adapted quickly to the changes they have seen at school. For those who may be struggling, we have been working closely with schools to make sure a high level of support is available.

It is important for all children to attend school unless they, or a member of their household, are showing the symptoms of Covid-19 or have tested positive. School plays a vital role in each and every child's long-term development. The main symptoms are: a high temperature; a new, continuous cough; and a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste. If you are unsure about the government's stay at home guidance, you can find it in this link to the national website <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

Sadly, given the scale of the pandemic, it is clear that many schools across the country will need to close 'bubbles' or ask certain people to self-isolate at some stage. This is already happening and we can assure you that each school has a plan for online learning if they are affected. Schools are able to receive advice and support, from both a national and local level, if they are worried about anyone's safety or health. Please bear in mind that the actions taken by schools will always be in line with national Covid-19 guidance – this guidance must be followed by all schools.

Our schools continue to do wonderful work in helping children and young people to enjoy the best start in life. In circumstances that none of us have ever faced before, thank you for supporting your school.

Yours sincerely



Cllr Carole Pattison
Cabinet member for Learning,
Aspiration and Communities



Mel Meggs
Strategic Director for Children's Services