

Dear Parent/Carer,

Children and young people during lockdown

We appreciate that keeping children and young people apart from their friends during this time is not always easy and some may feel that, if they are attending school or college, the rules do not need to apply to them. **They do.** Children and Young People have already experienced significant disruption to their education. The opportunity being provided to keep schools and colleges open is vitally important to ensure children and young people can continue to enjoy and flourish in their education.

As a school, we have been playing our part to help tackle the virus, keep everyone safe and continue with children and young people's vital education. This includes operating a bubble system, undertaking rigorous handwashing procedures, and maintaining social distancing where possible.

From Thursday 5 November, we will enter a four week period of lockdown and it is **imperative that our children and young people strictly follow the government restrictions in and out of school.**

This includes **not meeting friends after school/college has finished and going straight home.** We would ask that you also reiterate that **meeting friends in the evening and during weekends is not permitted.** Technology means that there are other ways for your children to connect with friends without seeing them in person and we ask that support your children to do this while the lockdown restrictions are in place.

It is extremely important that our children and young people understand Covid-19 spreads through close contact and, even those who experience mild or even no symptoms, can pass the

virus on to more vulnerable members of our community, putting lives, and the NHS, at risk. Social distancing is the best tool we have against this virus, it is our collective responsibility to help to reduce the transmission of the virus. By working together, following the guidance and adhering to the rules we will be able to reduce cases and continue to open our schools and colleges.

If you are worried about your child's mental health, support is available at www.kooth.com

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Caroline Dimond', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Caroline Dimond

Director of Public Health