



Derby City Council

Team	Public Health
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Dear Colleague,

First of all, we would like to thank you for everything you and your staff have been doing to keep Derby's children and young people safe. You have done a remarkable job during the last sixteen months and we will continue to fully support you in your efforts for the remainder of the academic year.

However, we are now seeing case numbers increase across the City and the Delta variant has become the dominant variant within Derby as it is across the country. The increase in cases is already having a significant impact on some schools and workplaces within the city. It is too early to judge the impact on our hospitals, and we are monitoring this closely.

As we continue to work with schools and education settings with increasing cases, we may recommend additional testing for students, staff and families linked to the school. This is a precautionary approach due to increased household spread of the Delta variant and may impact on siblings in other settings. We would ask that you continue to promote PCR testing for the three key COVID symptoms unless we advise you otherwise on an individual school basis.

On 15th June you will be aware that DfE shared guidance with schools on what the delay in Step 4 of the national roadmap means for summer term activities within schools. The general principle is that early years, schools and colleges must continue to risk assess and plan activities in line with the system of controls and should follow government guidance and the [roadmap out of lockdown](#). Further guidance to support education providers, and parents can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus/education-and-childcare>.

DfE guidance is available relating to the integrity of the 'bubble'. We know that young people have found remote learning extremely challenging and, therefore, breaking a bubble for a transition event and then moving to remote learning is not recommended. We also appreciate the impact on staff having to isolate and understand that this compromises your ability to provide effective remote learning.

We will continue to work with you and support you to make the right decisions for your setting and circumstances as we move towards the end of the academic year and hope that you, your staff and all of your young people manage to have a relaxing break during the summer.

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I enclose a letter to parents reminding everyone of the national guidance and legislation which remains in place until at least the 19<sup>th</sup> July. The letter highlights the actions we must all continue to take to protect ourselves and loved ones from the COVID-19 virus, including testing, isolation and vaccination. We would be grateful if you could share with parents and carers across your school community.

Thank you for your continuing support.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in grey ink, appearing to read 'R. Dewis', is positioned above the printed name.

Dr Robyn Dewis

Director of Public Health