



HIGHDOWN SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM CENTRE

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Dear Parents & Carers

We have started term 3 positively.

The testing has been smooth and efficient. Thank you to support colleagues and volunteers for making this happen. Students turned up promptly, wearing their masks and in good spirits.

Highdown's commitment is for education in 2022 to be as normal as possible. However, we have to have a contingency plan.

Combination of classes rarely provides useful release of resources because of timetable considerations. Nor does it provide positive learning experiences as classes are at different points in the curriculum. However, if this action does allow us to remain open, we would take it.

It is highly likely that we will have to close to year groups on a rotational basis. Something we avoided prior to Christmas unlike most schools. We will give as much notice for this as is possible, based on our ability to track isolation periods. However, this can change rapidly. We may only be able to give next day notice. It is also (we will only do so in extreme circumstances) possible that we will have to send year groups home during the day. We will notify parents via ClassCharts, SIMs Intouch, the website and social media.

Please can I encourage families to think of their own contingency plans. A plan with friends and neighbours to contact one another or to provide a port of call for younger students. Individual circumstances will obviously vary but it is likely that establishing support networks could facilitate communications and support.

Thank you for your understanding and be assured that we will take these courses of action only when necessary.

Please continue with regular testing and reporting.

Yours sincerely

Ms Cave
Headteacher

