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Our ref: DC/  
Please ask for: Debbie Chase

Date: 26<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Dear Parent/Carer/Staff member,

### **Update on COVID-19 in Southampton and measures to reduce risk in educational settings**

There continues to be a high level of COVID-19 infection across education and childcare settings in Southampton. It is important that all settings continue to adopt measures to reduce transmission when an outbreak occurs using the Department for Education [contingency framework](#) as a guide. The aim is to reduce transmission of the virus whilst balancing this with the great benefits children and young people achieve within their educational settings.

Individual schools and early years settings are best placed to know what is appropriate to protect their own community of children and staff and I continue to support the discretionary use of specific additional measures on a temporary basis during periods in which they are experiencing outbreaks.

My team are always on hand to offer additional support and advice

Thank you for everything you are doing to protect yourselves, your families and your communities.



**Dr Debbie Chase**  
**Director of Public Health**

## Further useful information

### How to stop coronavirus (COVID-19) spreading

There are things you can do to help reduce the risk of you and anyone you live with getting ill with coronavirus (COVID-19): [guidance on how to stay safe and help prevent the spread:](#)

- Get vaccinated – everyone aged 12 and over are eligible – see [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) vaccination - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](#) for more details and how to book.
- Wash your hands with soap and water or use hand sanitiser regularly throughout the day
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze and put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards
- Meet people outside and avoid crowded areas
- Open doors and windows to let in fresh air if meeting people inside
- Wear a face covering when it's hard to stay away from other people – particularly indoors or in crowded places
- Participate in twice weekly LFD testing following national guidelines (recommended for 11 years and over). We encourage you to log your results here: <https://www.gov.uk/log-test-site-covid19-results>



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