



RE: Weekly update 19/3/21

Dear Parent Carers

I hope that you and your families are well.

As we finish our second week as a (nearly) full school, following a disruptive 12 months, we are re-setting our sights to what we want our children and young people to achieve, and re-evaluating what we are doing to support this journey in committed partnership with you, as part of a large, dedicated community.

The link below is a brilliant, short, engaging, and inspirational video, produced to promote World Down's Syndrome day, which represents where we set our sights. The specifics will look different for different individuals within our setting, however the concept works for all, and perfectly encapsulates our Severndale vision: Everyone valued, everyone included, everyone learning.

Please share this video widely if you enjoy watching it as much as I do: <https://hiringchain.org/> (thanks to the Severndale parent carer who kindly sent me this link to share).

Outside of Covid restrictions, we have a strong ethos of inclusion (internal and external) at the core of our 'normal' function, to help our children and young people to learn skills, knowledge and experiences, gain confidence in our communities, and effectively communicate their ideas, thoughts, and feelings with different people, in different contexts.

We are closer than we have ever been in the last 12 months to getting back to this vision and the realities of preparing pupils with a future that they can look forward to. To achieve this, we need our community of mainstream schools/ colleges, employers/leaders of today and tomorrow, and the public to see and experience first-hand how capable and engaging our children and young people are to have around.

The situation this week - Class bubble closures

- Thankfully there have been zero positive Covid cases.
- 4 class bubbles closed and re-opened. Thank you to those parent carers for your swift action to get your child tested at a test centre as soon as Covid symptoms presented themselves. Please note that if you order PCR home tests, this takes twice as long as going to a centre. This results in a significant delay in the return of the test result. We appreciate that not all families can get to a test centre, so please let us know if this is the case and we will do what we can to support you to get your child tested as quickly as possible.
- 1 class bubble remains closed as we await test results.
- There have been zero asymptomatic cases identified from lateral flow tests.

I know that we are all finding things particularly tough right now, and that it may be hard to see past this at times, but I hope that after watching the film, you feel inspired and proud of who we collectively are, and what we do together for our children and young people.

Best wishes for a lovely weekend,



Sabrina Hobbs, Principal