



The Borders Partnership of Schools  
**Barnby & North Cove and Glebeland  
Primary Schools**

Academy Head: *Mrs Louise Scott*. Email: [head@bordersprimary.org](mailto:head@bordersprimary.org)



12<sup>th</sup> October 2020

Dear Families

**Thank-you**

I would like to begin by saying a personal thank-you for your understanding and support during what has been a challenging week for many. As you are aware, last Monday we experienced our first positive Covid result and thanks to your swift response to our request, we are able to send the members of our school community who were affected home quickly and safely. We recognise that this news has caused some rising anxiety and worry amongst our community, as we all live with the threat that Covid poses in our daily lives.

**Communication**

The decision to send out a simple text on Monday was based on the knowledge that many of you were still in the vicinity of the school or quite possibly on your way to work. I recognise that this raised immediate questions but it was necessary to ensure a swift response. In future the text will inform you that we have received the notification of a positive result. You will then receive further letters from the school providing more information. Please be aware that we cannot identify who the member of the school was who received the positive test.

I have been informed that some parents experienced a problem with receiving some of our correspondence; I have looked into this error and this should now be resolved - please do let the School Office know if you are still experiencing problems. Can I also ask that you keep the School Office informed if you change your contact details. The office email address is: [office.bnc@bordersprimary.org](mailto:office.bnc@bordersprimary.org) Please accept my sincere apologies for any miscommunication and worry this may have caused.

I have also received feedback that I should have been visible and speaking to parents as you collected your children, not sitting in the office and I appreciate this sentiment; I was however at the time liaising with the DfE to ensure all measures were in place as necessary to ensure that safety of all our pupils and staff.

**Covid Vigilance**

We all continue, on a daily basis, to ensure the school is safe for our pupils and families with additional cleaning routines embedded, zoned playground areas and rigorous personal hygiene e.g. handwashing, sanitising of surfaces and binning tissues immediately after use.

We do class the school as a whole bubble but we continue to reduce movement of staff and pupils as much as possible. In line with the government directive of delivering a full curriculum this means some of our staff do visit other classes and all movements are tracked.

***Growing successful futures***

Barnby & North Cove Primary School, The Street, Barnby, Beccles, Suffolk, NR34 7QB

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Glebeland Primary School, Beccles Road, Toft Monks, Beccles, Suffolk, NR34 0EW

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### Wellbeing of pupils

The wellbeing for our pupils is high on our list of priorities for our school. As much as possible we maintain a sense of normality in our schools; we do not want to catastrophize a situation that is already proving to have a significant impact on our physical and mental health. Our inclusion team is available to offer pastoral support for our pupils, as are all of staff. Mr Huxtable is checking in weekly with his pupils who are currently in isolation and many of my staff team are working with our families to offer additional support if required. Our food parcels are in the process of being delivered for our isolating pupils and this gives us a chance to speak to our families and pupils who are at home.

We have freed up additional periods of the pupils timetable for Music, Art, PSHE & Outdoor Learning, all of which have been proven to support wellbeing and positive mental health. Please keep looking at our website and our newsletters to see what is happening in our schools.

### Vulnerable members of your family

We have been asked about shielding and vulnerable members of families. And as much as we would like to offer assistance on this matter, as teachers we do not have the medical knowledge to advise on this and would ask that you seek medical advice from your GP. Of course, children should be in school where they can be engaging with their education, even the best online learning platform does not substitute for being in the classroom with their teacher and friends, but we know that sometimes difficult decisions have to be made.

### Amazing Team

I would also like to personally thank my amazing team at Barnby & North Cove Primary School who have worked tirelessly to support pupils who are not in school at present, as well as those who are. The chocolates and positive messages we received on Friday were very much appreciated - thank you.

At Borders Primary Partnership and the Consortium Trust, every person is working tirelessly to ensure that, while we are in the midst of a global pandemic, we are doing the best, every day, for each and everyone one of our pupils. My teams at Barnby & North Cove and Glebeland Primary Schools are going above and beyond every day and I am immensely proud of them. Please do join me in thanking them for what they do every day!

If you wish for further information, please go to our schools' website where you can find further information from the schools, the Trust and Local Authority and links to the government guidance sites.

Best wishes and take care,

**Mrs Scott**  
Academy Head

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