

11th January 2022

Dear Parent / Carer,

As you will be aware, Covid-19 is sadly still with us and as we go into 2022 we are once again seeing a rapid increase in cases in Dacorum and throughout the country.

Our priority is to keep all learners and staff safe and well, and ensure we are able to identify any new cases at DESC and prevent the spread within our local community.

To help minimise risk we are undertaking the following measures:

- Continuing to test learners on site
- Wearing face coverings in communal areas
- Restricting the number of external visitors
- I also encourage you as families to continue to test regularly at home in light of the highly transmissible Omicron variant surge.

I must highlight that due to the current situation, **we may** take the unprecedented decision to cancel onsite lessons and flip to lessons being set and delivered online (via Microsoft Teams) as a result of staff absence in centre.

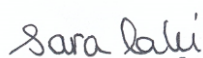
In light of this ever occurring:

- We will be in contact to inform you that your child/young person will be receiving their lessons online (via Microsoft Teams) for the following day.
- Your child/young person will continue to follow their current DESC timetable for lessons (online) with the exception of POD.
- POD sessions **will not** take place however POD teachers will be in contact with you directly during this allotted time to ensure that your child/young person has everything they need to access the lessons, record attendance they will need to speak with your child/young person directly.
- Alternative provisions such as plastering, Building1Zone, Hair and Beauty, Sport and Active Leisure etc. plus any other work experiences continue as normal and will not be effected.

Online learning will only be implemented should we have no other option. I assure you that your child/young person's learning will not be compromised however the unpredictability of the current situation means we need to plan for all eventualities.

I thank you in advance for your support.

Yours sincerely



Ms. S Lalis (Headteacher)

Headteacher: Ms Sara Lalis, BA(Hons) PGCE NPQH

Dacorum Education Support Centre, 30 Tenzing Road, Hemel Hempstead, HP2 4HS. (For KS1-3 & Outreach)

Dacorum Education Support Centre, Barncroft Campus, Washington Avenue, HP2 6NG. (For KS4)

Email: admin@desc.herts.sch.uk | Tel: 01442 247 476 | www.desc.herts.sch.uk