

Sheila Durr
Executive Director of Children and Young People



Our Ref JK/PAs
Your Ref
Date 02 March 2021
Please ask for Julien Kramer
Direct Line 0161 253 5477
E-mail j.kramer@bury.gov.uk

Department for Children and
Young People

Parents /Carers of children and young people
in Bury schools

Julien Kramer
Interim Assistant Director
(Education and Inclusion)

Dear Parent/Carer

COVID-19 UPDATE FOR PARENTS – SCHOOL RE-OPENING and VACCINATIONS

I write to thank you again for your support to Bury schools at this time and to provide an update on the latest picture with regard to COVID-19 in Bury.

School Re-opening

Our schools have continued to offer remote learning to those pupils who are at home since the January lockdown. Thank you for supporting your children to access this offer. I appreciate that this will have been challenging for many families including for parents who have been juggling this with working from home.

From 8 March we look forward to all of our pupils, with the exception of those who are shielding or self-isolating, returning to school. At the point that schools open to all children in your child/children's year group/s attendance at school will be mandatory. Guidance for parents from the Department for Education can be accessed [here](#).

Pupils returning to our secondary schools will be offered a lateral flow test and provided that this first test is negative then they will be able to return to school shortly afterwards. A further two tests will be offered in school. After this time home testing kits will be issued so that twice weekly testing can continued for this age group.

Vaccinations

Public Health England has been rolling out the vaccination programme in line with national guidance. The government planned to vaccinate all people within the top four priority groups, identified by the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation, by 15 February. The remaining priority groups are now being vaccinated. I am delighted that Bury has been meeting its targets for the roll out of vaccinations.

The success of the vaccination programme in our adult population is supporting the opening of schools to all pupils. With every day that passes more and more adults have received their first dose. Nationally, over 20 million adults had received the first dose of the vaccine by 27 February. Most of us will now know of at least one family member or friend who has received their first dose.

Information from the NHS about the vaccine can be found [here](#). Information regarding the priority groups for vaccination can be found [here](#).

Thank you for continuing to follow the current lockdown restrictions. This will need to continue in line with the Prime Minister's road map for easing restrictions.

In working together we will ensure that the return of all of our pupils to Bury schools is successful and further disruption to children's learning in school is minimised. This is what we all want.

Yours sincerely



Julien Kramer
Interim Assistant Director, Education and Inclusion
Children and Young People

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3 Knowsley Place, Duke Street, Bury, BL9 0EJ

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