



*"if you have faith as small as a mustard seed...nothing will be impossible."*  
(Matthew: 17 v20)

13<sup>th</sup> July 2021

Dear Parent / Carer

### **RE: Lifting of national restrictions – COVID 19**

As you will have seen from the announcement last night, the government plans to lift all restrictions from Monday 19<sup>th</sup> July and are emphasizing a cautious return to "normal".

The government have produced guidance for schools around this announcement which is clear that schools can retain their current operational status until the summer break.

We are aware that a number of our local schools have had to close several bubbles over the last couple of weeks and so we are given a timely reminder that coronavirus is still with us. For the sake of three days, and to go into the summer break fit and well, we will continue to operate our bubbles, social distancing, hygiene measures and the wearing of face coverings until the summer break, this includes face coverings for any visitor to the school site.

Towards the end of this term, Ms Luxford will write to you with the operational plan, under lifted restrictions, for the start of the new academic year.

### **FSM**

The government and local authority are once again providing school meal vouchers for the summer break. A voucher for £90 per child who is registered as free school meals attending The Downs CEP will be arriving in your inbox shortly. Please regularly check all mailboxes in case it goes into your junk mail, as I cannot repeat order any of these. The voucher is worth £15 per week over the 6 week summer break. Please ensure you budget carefully and spread your spending over the holiday as this is a one off payment to provide a daily hot meal each week for your child/ren.

### **Year 6**

On Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> July we would like to invite year six parents on to Goodwin playground at 12.50pm for their final farewell. We ask that you socially distance from other parents and wear face coverings. We also request that only two adults attend for each child. After the farewell and presentation, we ask that parents leave the site promptly to allow us to prepare for dismissing the rest of the school.

### **Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> July – finish times**

- 1.10pm Year six will leave with their parents from the playground
- 1.20pm **Reception** will leave from the lower Blossom gates and **Year One** from the small pedestrian gate
- 1.25pm Year 5 will leave from Blossom gate  
Year 4 will leave from Goodwin playground
- 1.30pm Year 3 will leave from Blossom gate  
Year 2 will leave from Goodwin playground

### **Pastor Seyan**

Pastor Seyan has announced that he will be stepping down as Pastor of the Walmer Baptist Church at the end of August due to ill health. He has had a long association with The Downs - as a pupil, a caretaker, governor and Pastor of our local church. I am sure you join me in wishing Seyan well for the future.

Please continue to follow all our school guidance as well as the national guidance, let's not go mad as restrictions are lifted so that we can all enjoy our summer break fit and well.

Yours sincerely

Miss T Leighton  
Headteacher

