



## Downs View

Executive Headteacher: Vanessa Hickey

Warren Road  
Woodingdean  
Brighton BN2 6BB

Telephone: 01273 601680  
Email: [office@downsview.brighton-hove.sch.uk](mailto:office@downsview.brighton-hove.sch.uk)  
[www.downsview.brighton-hove.sch.uk](http://www.downsview.brighton-hove.sch.uk)

**Further Education Provision:** Downs View Link College, Surrenden Road, Brighton BN1 6WQ **Telephone:** 01273 507719

---

22<sup>nd</sup> October 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **Staff Absences**

I am writing to let you know that we are currently experiencing very high levels of staff absence at the school site. This is having a huge impact on pupils as this leaves us unable to safely staff all classes.

On a daily basis we review each class as to whether we have staff that can support that class. We have a number of supply and agency staff that are familiar with our pupils so we always try to cover any staffing gaps with them.

If we are unable to fully staff a class safely then we will either close the class or ask some pupils to stay at home. Please be assured that we only do this as a last resort. We will try to do this equitably but as all of our pupils have different needs this affects the support they need. If we have a lot of unfamiliar adults in a class this often leads to an increase in behaviour incidents which can impact the whole class.

To help with this current situation, it would be useful if you could contact us as soon as possible and by 7.45am on the day of absence if your child is poorly or has a medical appointment.

The details for reporting absences are as follows:

**Telephone: 01273 601680 / email: [office@downsview.brighton-hove.sch.uk](mailto:office@downsview.brighton-hove.sch.uk)**

Please remember that in cases of diarrhoea and sickness your child should remain off school for 48 hours from their last bout of sickness or diarrhoea.

I would like to thank the families that have already been affected by class closures for their understanding and support.

Best Wishes,

*Vanessa*

Vanessa Hickey  
Executive Headteacher

## Respect Aspiration Resilience

An **aspirational** learning environment with dignity and **respect** at its core, where everyone reaches their potential through effective communication, building **resilience** and having fun.

---