



## **An important message from Vicky Head, Director of Public Health**

We are asking parents to remember to social distance and wear face coverings if possible at the school gates, to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Rates remain high in Bedford Borough and as children and young people have been returning to schools following half term we are asking everyone to play their part.

All of our schools in the Borough are working hard to make sure children and staff are safe whilst they are at school. However, we also need the support of parents, families and carers when it comes to what happens before and after school.

There have been reports from concerned residents and parents of gatherings of people near school gates, sometimes outside of people's homes, particularly at pick up time. We are worried about the potential for spreading the virus that these gatherings present.

Bedford Borough Covid Marshals have visited some schools to help move groups along but please remember that under the current national restrictions no more than two people are allowed to meet outside in a public place. It is illegal for households to mix indoors (apart from support or childcare bubbles), which means that play dates are also prohibited at this time.

I'd like to remind everyone doing the school run – COVID-19 has not gone away and we all need to work together to control the spread of the virus.

Please remember to keep your distance, don't meet with more than one other person and if you can – please wear a face covering.

Vicky Head  
Director of Public Health