



# Bevendean Primary School and Nursery

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## A place for everyone to succeed and thrive

Monday, 18 January 2021

We recently received communication from the Government about school Nursery classes. The Government are stating that nursery settings should be open for all children.

Brighton and Hove Local Authority however has advised that with the increase in COVID-19 cases, they feel we really shouldn't be inviting more children into our schools at this time.

The number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Brighton & Hove has more than doubled since the current lockdown started on 26 December.

In the seven days up to 8 January, 2021 (based on data published on 13 January) we had 2,244 confirmed new COVID-19 cases in Brighton & Hove. This is:

- *an 18% increase per 100,000 residents from the previous week*
- *equivalent to a weekly rate of new cases of 771 per 100,000 residents*
- *higher than the rate for England, which was 655 per 100,000 and the South East which was 699 per 100,000*

Our local hospitals are also seeing significant increases in the volume of patients with COVID-19 which is putting extra pressure on the NHS. Critical incident declared.

This has put the school in a very difficult position. If we do not offer nursery provision to the children within our setting, then the Government will remove all our early years funding. If this were to happen we would sadly lose our nursery class forever.

With this in mind I have had to try and work out a way to open nursery. This has put a strain on other bubbles and remote learning within the school but we will be able to offer nursery from next Monday to those families who require nursery provision.

The Prime Minister did state that schools are vectors for transmission of the virus, however they are also asking that we invite nursery children back into class. I have to open the nursery to secure funding but fully understand if you decided not to send your child into the setting. If you choose not to send your children into school this will not affect our funding.

If you wish to send you child to Nursery from week beginning Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January for their usual hours please contact the school at [covidcontact@bevendean.brighton-hove.sch.uk](mailto:covidcontact@bevendean.brighton-hove.sch.uk) so we can ensure we have sufficient cover for the class.

Thank you as ever for your continued support.

