

Date June 2021  
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Dear All

It's safe to say, it has been a year unlike any other for you and your children. From the return to school last August, to the sudden lockdown again in January, I am sure you are all ready for a break! I am writing to you all to say, firstly, well done for getting through it all. It has not been easy, and your children have shown strength and maturity well beyond their years. I know you will be proud of them, as we are, and they should certainly be proud of themselves.

I know that, right now, you won't want to think about the return of school in August. However, please be assured that our team in NHS Grampian, along with teachers and all the council education officials will be keeping a close watch on the situation. Our priority is ensuring your children will be able to return to school safely.

At the time of writing, we are seeing a steady increase in case numbers across Grampian. The Delta variant, which has proven to be much more easily transmitted, is now the dominant strain in the region. This means we need to go carefully and cautiously in the coming weeks.

If you are getting together with family and friends during the break, please observe the limits on the size of gatherings and remember that outside is generally safer than inside. Regular testing, using Lateral Flow Devices, is encouraged for adults and any older children in your household. Tests can be ordered from the NHS Inform website for collection or home delivery. Community pharmacies are now also able to supply a testing kit. If you, or your child, starts to display the known symptoms of COVID-19, then you should book a PCR test, as quickly as possible. All the information you need on testing – both PCR and LFD – can be found on the NHS Inform website ([www.nhsinform.scot](http://www.nhsinform.scot)), just click on the red banner at the top of the page for all the latest COVID-19 information and advice.

We are continuing to offer appointments for COVID-19 vaccination and would encourage to attend your appointment, and the follow-up second dose appointment, wherever possible. Getting both doses of the vaccine offers the maximum protection possible.

I wish you all a very enjoyable summer break and, if your children have completed their time in primary school, I wish them all the very best for the move to secondary school!

Yours sincerely



Susan Webb  
Director of Public Health  
NHS Grampian