

To: All Head Teachers and Principals

Our Ref: MB/DC

During COVID-19 please email:  
Debbie\_Campbell1@sandwell.gov.uk

Date: 2 November 2021

Dear Colleagues

I hope you all had an enjoyable well-deserved break.

There have been a number of enquires/concerns raised about Squid Games recently. Please see [attached letter](#) that has been compiled that can be sent out to parents or you may wish to amend and send out from yourself directly.

Prior to the half-term break a letter was sent out from Lisa McNally, Director of Public Health and myself detailing recommended controls to manage the COVID-19 transmission. Please also remember the importance of ventilation although I acknowledge this can be more difficult particularly as the weather is changing.

I also wanted to update you that weekly meetings continue to take place with the DfE. If you have anything specific you would like raised, please do not hesitate to contact me. I have continued to raise the issue of the daily returns to clarify the purpose as I recognise the time it takes to complete this, I have been assured that there will be a communication that will be sent out to clarify this.

Just a couple of other updates this week.

## **12-15 year-olds COVID Vaccination Programme**

In addition to the sessions arranged at schools 12-15 year-olds can also get their COVID vaccination at drop in clinics across the Black Country and West Birmingham

Please share the link below with families who may have missed the session in school or want to make their own arrangements:

- <https://www.blackcountryandwestbirmccg.nhs.uk/your-health-services/health-advice/covid-19-vaccination>

## **Online Safety Training in Schools survey**

Following the JEG meeting discussions regarding the Online Safety Review, please click the link to a [short survey](#) for schools to complete on Online Safety Training in Schools.

The survey should take no longer than 10 minutes to complete and every school is expected to complete the survey.

The closing date is Friday 5 November 2021.

[IL1: PROTECT]

**Melanie Barnett, Acting Operational Director of Children and Education**  
Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council, Sandwell Council House, Oldbury, West Midlands. B69 3DE

I hope you all have a good start to the new term and please do not hesitate to contact me should you need to. I want to ensure that there is a benefit to you in terms of these letters so would welcome any suggestions you may have, which I will of course pass onto Michael Jarrett when he starts with us on 22 November.

I hope you all have a good and productive week.

Yours sincerely



Melanie Barnett  
Acting Operational Director of Children and Education

[IL1: PROTECT]

**Melanie Barnett, Acting Operational Director of Children and Education**  
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