



Dear parents and carers,

I would like to firstly take this opportunity to welcome you back into school following the summer break. Our learners seem incredibly happy and settled and it is great to see our four new starters already forming lasting friendships.

Following our recent Ofsted inspection, we have made some changes to our curriculum as highlighted within the final report recommendations, this includes delivering well-planned and sequenced 'Personal Social, Health and Economic' sessions. We will also be incorporating 'Relationships and Sex education' during the next term as this is a Department for Education requirement once young people become secondary age. We will however be sharing with you our proposed RSE curriculum, our policy and our sessions plans at an open parent meeting before the end of this half term.

[APT COO Ofsted Report July 2023](#)

As you may be aware there is an increase in Covid cases both nationally and locally. The new strain 'Eris' is currently being monitored by the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) but at present there are no recommendations to commence routine testing in schools. The new variant has however prompted the acceleration of the vaccine programme and the UKHSA are urging everyone to eligible to come forward. As a precautionary measure we do have to be mindful of our families with a member of the household that are classified as 'clinically vulnerable.' With this in mind can we please ask that if you suspect that your young person is feeling unwell to test in the first instance. We will be sending home testing kits this week in order to keep the learners, their families, and our staff as safe as we possibly can. Within school we will continue to implement our hygiene routines to include the regular use of hand sanitisers and handwashing at regular intervals.

[UKHSA - New Covid Variant Advice](#)

Finally, I want to thank you for your continued support, I know that you will continue to work with myself and the team at APTCOO to make the new term as successful as possible.

If you have any questions regarding the contents of this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

**Michaela Ledsham**  
**Head of APTCOO Independent Special School**