TORBAY COUNCIL

Torbay Council Castle Circus, Town Hall Torquay TQ1 3DR **Website:** www.torbay.gov.uk

Date: 05/06/2020

To staff/parents,

We would like to reassure our community that whilst the regional R number for the South West is being reported at 1, in Torbay we currently have a low number of COVID-19 cases whether in the hospital or in care homes.

The low local numbers are the best guide to rates of infection in our community. Therefore, we are not recommending any local change in policy and advise that schools should open as planned. We are monitoring the situation carefully and have proactive plans to manage any emerging local issues. We will keep in contact with you about the local situation and let you know immediately if anything changes.

Of course, we want to keep cases of COVID-19 as low as possible, so although our message to you is that you shouldn't be unduly worried about this regional number, it is vital that each of us carry on with social distancing measures, self-isolating if you or anyone in your home has symptoms of COVID-19, and regular thorough handwashing.

We have come so far but our low numbers will only stay this way if we all continue to play our part and adhere to government guidance. Further information on current government guidelines can be found at www.gov.uk/coronavirus. Learn more about the R number here.

Yours sincerely

Caroline Dimond Director of Public Health





