Bridge House School

Grantham Road,
Boston
PE21 7NL
Email: BridgeHouse@AsprisCS.co.uk

Wednesday 14 October 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to provide an update regarding the recent increase in pupil and staff absence due to symptoms of sickness, diarrhoea and flu-like illness affecting our Middle School campus.

Over recent weeks we have seen a growing number of pupils and staff reporting similar symptoms. Following careful monitoring of attendance patterns and consultation with UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) health protection team, we have taken the decision to temporarily close the Middle School campus for 48 hours. This will act as a firebreak to help reduce transmission and allow for a thorough deep clean of all teaching and communal areas.

The health, safety and wellbeing of our pupils and staff remain our highest priority. While many cases appear to be mild and self-limiting, the high number of absences today has resulted in insufficient staffing levels to operate all groups safely.

Actions the School Has Taken
To minimise the risk of further spread, we have:

- Increased cleaning of frequently touched surfaces across all campuses.
- Implemented additional hygiene reminders for pupils and staff.
- Ensured handwashing and hand sanitising facilities remain readily available.
- Monitored absence data closely to identify potential patterns of illness.
- Arranged a comprehensive deep clean of the affected campus.
- Reduced unnecessary mixing of groups where possible.
- Continued liaison with relevant agencies and followed public health guidance.

How Families Can Help
We would ask for your support in helping to reduce the spread of infection by:

- Keeping your child at home if they are unwell.
- Ensuring children with sickness or diarrhoea remain off school for **48 hours after their last episode of symptoms**.
- Encouraging regular handwashing with soap and water, particularly after using the toilet and before eating.
- Teaching children to catch coughs and sneezes using tissues and dispose of them promptly.
- Avoiding sharing drinks bottles, food or personal items.
- Seeking medical advice if symptoms become severe, prolonged or you have any concerns about your child's health.

Returning to School
We intend to reopen the Middle School campus on Friday 16th October, following the closure period, subject to staffing levels and the latest information available. We will continue to monitor the situation closely and keep families informed of any further developments.

Thank you for your understanding, support and cooperation. By working together, we can help minimise the spread of illness and ensure a safe return to school for all pupils and staff.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the school office.

Yours sincerely,

Clare Hiom
Headteacher