WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION BY DEPUTY C.S. ALVES OF ST. HELIER ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 17th NOVEMBER 2020

Question

Will the Minister outline what contingency plans, if any, are in place should Covid-19 be shown to be spreading through schools and into the wider community, providing the answer in relation to each Key Stage?

Answer

There are very detailed plans in place should there be a rapid increase in COVID-19. Every school has experienced the challenges of managing in this pandemic. Schools have clear approaches to 'blended' learning and are ready to relaunch this if the need arises. In addition, training has been rolled-out this term to support any teacher who is unsure about providing a combined system of learning for their pupils.

Over the past few weeks, there has been a steady increase in numbers and the relevant schools, health officials and education department have acted jointly and quickly. This situation will be monitored over the coming weeks and officers will continue to revise policy and practice based on the scientific advice from health officials.

Early Years key stage is predominantly supported with Home Learning in paper hard copy format. All other key stages are predominantly using online Home Learning as and when children are unable to attend school. Our Covid-19 contingency plans are not key stage based, they are based on the medical advice in relation to effects and / or spread of the illness by age group.