



11th December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

www.thehewettacademy.org

We have received advice from the DfE suggesting that it would be advantageous for schools to make Friday 18th December a non-teaching day, and using the day for staff training.

The reasons for this are to minimise the burden of track and trace falling on schools over the Christmas period. In addition, Public Health England has agreed that schools should not be expected to track and trace contacts after a period of six days has passed since children's final day in school. Therefore, where schools' last teaching day is on Thursday 17th December, there should be no pupil contact tracing requests beyond Wednesday 23rd December.

I think that you would agree that should your child test positive on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day, it would increase the burden for you to have to notify the School, and for the School to trace and call all of your child's close contacts, on either of these days.

The Leadership Team have agreed, therefore, that there will be a teacher training day on Friday 18th December 2020, and that School will finish at normal times on Thursday. As Friday will become a staff training day, no remote learning for pupils will be expected on this day.

Reporting of a Child's positive COVID-19 test after 17th December.

As a reminder, should your child develop COVID-19 symptoms after 17th December, you must obtain a test for them as soon as possible. The following outlines the reporting procedure following a positive test:

- If your child tests positive for COVID-19 within the period from 18th to 23rd December, you should email myself immediately on antonylittle@inspirationtrust.org
- If your child tests positive for COVID-19 from the 24th December onwards, having developed symptoms more than 48 hours since being in school, the school should not be contacted about their absence until the first day of the new term. Parents and carers should, in this case, follow contact tracing instructions by NHS Test and Trace.

Can I finish by thanking parents for their generous support over what has been a difficult term for all of us. It is much appreciated and we wish you all a relaxing and healthy Christmas. Students return to school on Tuesday 5th January 2021,

Best wishes

Mr A Little

Principal