

Court Fields School

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Acting Head of School: Mrs P Matthews

Executive Head: Mrs S Watson

10 December 2020

Dear Parents & Carers

In these exceptional times, we are very aware of the anxiety and stress that our families are experiencing in this run up to Christmas. We all want to be able to see our families safely on Christmas Day and over the Christmas period. The Government advised on Tuesday that schools can use an additional INSET day on Friday 18th in order that students, families and staff have longer away from school prior to the main Christmas festivities. This will further reduce the risk to all our vulnerable family members.

We already have an INSET Day planned on the 18th and so will add this additional INSET to the existing INSET Day.

During the time students are not in school, teachers will be further preparing for the complex combination of face to face lessons and online learning for any children who might need to self-isolate next term. This INSET is valuable time that we would not otherwise have, and importantly, reduces the risk of transmission before Christmas.

Therefore, school will finish at 2.45pm for Key Stage 3 and 3pm for Key Stage 4 on Wednesday 16th and there will be two INSET days on Thursday 17th and Friday 18th December. I know this is very short notice, due to the timing of the Government announcement, and this may cause some difficulty for some parents. Therefore, we will provide child care on the Thursday for any Year 7s who need it, and for any very vulnerable children who would not be safe and able to be independent at home. If you need this for your child, please contact us on the email keyworker@courtfields.net so we can arrange Year Group bubbles as necessary.

We are in extraordinary times, and this is an exceptional situation. I appreciate your support for this exceptional measure, and I hope that it will help you all to enjoy a well-earned Christmas with loved ones.

Finally, the Senior Leadership Team will be assisting the NHS and Public Health with any track and trace for 6 days after the last day of school for students, in line with Government guidance. This is to ensure that any close contacts in the 48 hours prior to the end of term are identified using our effective processes.

If your child develops symptoms during the 48 hours after their last day (on Thursday 17th or Friday 18th December), you must still inform the School using the designated email address confidential@courtfields.net. This will cover their potentially infectious period, allow us to



conduct our track and trace, and if necessary inform close contacts that they have to self-isolate.

Of course, we hope the measures that we have in place to prevent the transmission of Covid-19 will prevent any further cases. We have been reassured by Public Health that our measures are robust and effective. Please remind your child to be extra cautious, and to follow all the Covid guidance when in school, on the way to/from school and when out of school. Thank you for all your support, which is very much appreciated.

Yours sincerely

POLLY MATTHEWS
Acting Headteacher