

14th December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have received advice from the DfE suggesting that it would be advantageous for schools to make Friday 18th December a non-teaching day. Having spoken with other Inspiration trust schools **we will now be closed on Friday 18th December. The last day of term will now be Thursday 17th December. School will finish at the usual time on this day.**

The reasons for this are to minimise the impact on schools and families of 'track and trace' falling over the Christmas period. Public Health England has announced that schools will not be expected to track and trace contacts after a period of six days has passed since children's final day in school. This means that we won't be informing parents of any need for children to self isolate beyond Wednesday 23rd December.

We do not want to place the burden on parents to have to immediately tell the school if a child tests positive on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day. We 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 what you should do if your child tests positive.

- If your child tests positive for COVID-19 within the period from 18th to 23rd December, you should report this via email: [office@gypa.org.uk](mailto:office@gypa.org.uk)
- 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 does not need to 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.

Yours faithfully,

Mr Bloomfield  
Executive Principal