

11th December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the last week of term, I wanted to update you on the plans regarding which days pupils will be in school next week.

You will be aware that the government announced this week that Friday 18th December could be taken as an INSET with staff encouraged to work remotely. This measure is largely designed to ensure that the school is not involved in tracking and tracing contacts over Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. As a result of this we have decided that Friday 18th December will be taken as an INSET day and so **Thursday 17th December will be the last day of term for pupils.**

We had hoped that all year groups could attend school every day next week however our staffing levels will not support this and we have made the decision to **continue with one year group working from home on Monday to Wednesday next week.** Just to clarify this:

- Monday 14th December – **Year 9 to remain working from home**, all other year groups to attend
- Tuesday 15th December – **Year 8 to remain working from home**, all other year groups to attend
- Wednesday 16th December – **Year 7 to remain working from home**, all other year groups to attend
- Thursday 17th December – **all year groups to attend school, including Year 11.**

On Thursday 17th December we will be holding our virtual Christmas Service as well as serving our famous Christmas Lunch. This is why we would like all year groups to be in school on this day. **School will end on Thursday at the usual time of 3.30pm.**

I am conscious that there have been several occasions throughout this unprecedented term when you have been asked to make alternative plans at relatively short notice. As you know, this is not how we like to operate and we will always aim to keep school open wherever possible. Thank you for your support and understanding.

Just a reminder that **school reopens for the spring term on Tuesday 5th January.** We look forward to seeing all pupils on this date.

We are hoping that with mass testing in the city centre and the hope of a vaccine rollout across the country, we can look forward to a New Year that is less disrupted and where we can all begin to feel safer socialising and living our normal daily lives.

Best wishes for a peaceful, safe and enjoyable Christmas break.

Yours faithfully,



James Ludlow
Principal