

11 December 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Further to my letter yesterday, school will close on Thursday, 17 December. The INSET day on 18 December will replace the previously published INSET day on 30 April 2021. Students will now attend school on this date.

Thursday 17 December will be a 'normal' school day in terms of start and end times, but this day will now become a non-uniform day to raise funds for Headspace and Fairfax PTA. The Academy will reopen to students on Tuesday, 5 January 2021.

Covid Symptoms

Please be reminded that if a student tests positive for covid, the Academy is required to follow PHE advice and trace contacts that are required to isolate.

With this in mind I respectfully request that if your child has any covid symptoms that you keep them at home until tested. Any positive results within school from now on will result in students and families having to isolate over the Christmas period and we would like to avoid this if possible.

If any member of your household displays symptoms, all members of the household should isolate until the symptomatic person receives a negative result.

I'm sure you will agree that our students have shown incredible resilience since March and we very much hope that with your support they can enjoy a Christmas break without having to isolate.

If your child does need to isolate due to having symptoms or a household member testing positive, please make sure we know that the absence is covid related so that we can record it accurately. Absences related to covid are 'x-coded' and exempt from our usual absence management procedures.

Contact tracing over the Christmas period

If your child receives a positive test after 17 December, you will need to notify us if either the following apply:

- 1.) Your child was in school in the 48 hours prior to developing symptoms.
- 2.) If your child was asymptomatic and they were in school in the 48 hours prior to taking the test.

You should email contacttrace@fairfax.fmat.co.uk with a copy of the positive test result and a telephone number that we can contact you on. The Academy will then carry out necessary contact tracing.

I appreciate that should we need to contact you to advise your child to isolate, it will be incredibly frustrating, however the team at Fairfax are obliged to follow PHE advice, and I ask that our team are treated with courtesy and respect as sadly this has not always been the case.

Thank you

This term has without question been very different and incredibly challenging. I would like to thank you on behalf of the Academy staff for your ongoing support.

The team at Fairfax wish you all a restful festive break and a happy new year.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'DJB', with a flourish extending to the right.

MRS D J BUNN
Head of Academy

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