



11 December 2020

Dear Parents & Carers,

### End of Term

Further to our events letter this week, you may be aware that the Department for Education have allowed schools to change the date of one INSET day in order to replace it with Friday 18th December.

We have carefully considered the implications for this including:

- The impact upon pupils and families having to manage both work and childcare with such limited notice.
- The inconvenience of potentially affecting **two** school calendar days and any associated planning related to above.
- The wider community pressures of fitting in with other schools and settings decisions and how they affect childcare for family and sibling links.
- The ability to rearrange professional development sessions which will have financial commitments for the school
- Changes to professional development days which may inconvenience families and staff who may have agreed annual leave.
- The overall impact of these decisions upon the attendance of pupils in the final week of term and the start of spring term.

Therefore our INSET days will remain as published for 2020-21 meaning **School will close at 3.00pm on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December and will re-open at 8.40am on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021.**

### COVID-19 - School holiday guidance

We have received the following guidance regarding the reporting of positive COVID-19 cases during the first 6 days of the Christmas break:

- If your child develops symptoms **before** the end of Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December AND tests positive for COVID-19 by Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> December, you must let us know by emailing [hesleden@durhamlearning.net](mailto:hesleden@durhamlearning.net) as we have been asked to support NHS Test and Trace by identifying close contacts and advising self-isolation. This is from a period your child may have been infectious in school.
- If your child tests positive for COVID-19, having developed symptoms **after** Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December, the school does not need to be informed and you should follow contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace.

Whilst we will not be 'on-call' at all times, Staff responsible for contact tracing will check emails twice per day in case of notification of positive cases and to advise close contacts to self-isolate (this may be done by text or email).

Holiday	Closing Date	Re-open for Teaching Purposes
Spring half-term 2021	Friday 12 February 2021	Monday 22 February 2021
<b>Easter 2021</b>	<b>Friday 26 March 2021</b>	Monday 12 April 2021
Summer half-term 2021	Thursday 27 May 2021	Monday 7 June 2021
Summer 2021	<b>Tuesday 20 July 2021</b>	
<b>School will be closed for the following staff training days:</b> • Mon 18 Jan 2021 • Fri 28 May 2021		

**Mrs Dunn**