

# Waterhouses CE Primary Academy

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Headteacher: Mr David Wood



9th December 2020

Dear Parent and Carers

## **INSET Day FRIDAY 18<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER**

Following Government advice released yesterday afternoon, we have taken the decision to move one of our INSET days to Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December. This will mean that the last day of term will now be **Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December**. This will bring us in line with Churnet View and QEGS, who both have Friday 18<sup>th</sup> designated as a School closure day.

We will no longer have an INSET day on **Monday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2021**. This will now be a normal school day.

The Government's aim is to reduce mixing by one day, extending the time children and staff are away from each other and reducing the school's duty for track and trace to December 23<sup>rd</sup> rather than 24<sup>th</sup>.

This will allow us to ensure that there is a 6-day window between the end of term and Christmas Day to support school staff if they have to carry out any contact tracing as a result of positive cases of Covid-19. The Department for Education (DfE) recognise the additional workload that school staff have had to manage over the weekends and holidays, and therefore the consideration for this flexibility is welcomed.

The DfE appreciate that this communication has come late in the day, hence why we are only just communicating with you now. Further information can be found on the [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) website. An extract is copied at the end of this letter for further clarification.

### **Positive Cases During the Christmas Break**

A Positive Case more than 48 hours after being in school (Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December).

Where a pupil or staff member tests positive for Covid -19 having developed symptoms more than 48 hours since being at school, **the school should not be contacted**. Parents and carers should follow contact tracing instructions by NHS Test and Trace.

For the first 6 days after teaching, if a pupil or staff member tests positive for Covid -19 having developed symptoms within 48 hours of being in school (this means Friday 18<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 19<sup>th</sup>), the school is asked to assist in

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identifying close contacts and advising self-isolation, as the individual may have been infectious whilst in school.

**Where this is the case, parents/staff will need to email:** [headteacher@waterhouses.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@waterhouses.staffs.sch.uk) .

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "D Wood". The letters are cursive and slightly slanted to the right.

David Wood

Headteacher