

Unit E, the Mill Yard, Nursling Street, Southampton, SO16 0AJ



8th Dec 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to you regarding the next/last few days in school. I am aware that should, in the last week of term any classes, or year groups, be told they need to isolate then this would require isolation over the Christmas period.

I am keen to ensure that all pupils, staff and their families can experience an enjoyable Christmas Day and I am aware that, with schools remaining open until 18th December, our Headteachers may find themselves in a position of having to phone parents during the first week of the holiday with news that children need to isolate because of positive cases within a bubble.

Whilst our school leaders do not wish to prevent you from being able to enjoy Christmas with others in your chosen three household bubble, they may be asked by the DFE to deliver this message on behalf of track and trace should it be necessary. If your Headteacher does contact you in that last week of term or during the Christmas holiday, your child and your family should isolate following the current government guidelines.

This means, if your child tests positive, they would have to isolate for 10 days from the date symptoms started. The rest of the household would have to isolate for 14 days from that date. Those children who have been in the same bubble as a confirmed case would be required to isolate for 14 days. If this happens in the last week of term, this would require isolation over Christmas Day.

In order to reduce the possibility of new cases and to minimise the impact on families, I ask that you support your school by ensuring you and your family follow the Tier 2 restrictions carefully. I would ask you to remain vigilant and not take any undue risks at this time. If your child is unwell and you are unsure whether to send your child to school, please err on the side of caution and keep your child at home.

We will authorise all sickness absence during this period based on parental judgement.

We thank you for your support and wish you a happy and safe Christmas.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Farmer", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Robert Farmer
Chief Executive Officer