



11 December 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Updated Arrangements for the Last Day of Term

I write to you with regards to our last day of term arrangements and a change that has had to be made to the date. As you may be aware, the government has made a decision to allow schools to take an INSET day on 18 December to support the tracing process that schools will be required to undertake after the term ends. By closing on 17 December to students the next 6 days will be used as the window for tracing contacts of any positive cases, and therefore this process will end on 23 December rather than Christmas Eve.

It has been our full intention to continue with our intended close date of 18 December to ensure that our students receive as much teacher input as possible. Many schools have adopted various positions that they feel is right for their community, and as a result, we have had to revisit our plans due to many staff now having childcare issues 18 December.

Following a risk assessment of operating with predicted staffing levels, we have made the decision to close the physical school to students, apart from those who are classed as vulnerable or children of key workers. On Friday we will therefore be reverting to our published Contingency Plan which can be found here

<https://www.maidenerleghchilternedge.co.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=871&type=pdf>

Lessons will be set using Google Classroom. Please be aware that some staff have young children at home and, therefore, may not be able to deliver live lessons and in this case resources and instructions will be uploaded to their subject page.

Confirmed details of our timings for Friday will be sent out early next week.

However, we will be open for Key Worker children on Friday 18th December. If you qualify for this provision please complete the survey by clicking on the link below. This must be completed by 8pm on Monday 14th December.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=WwlpOb3F7ECiSBghIHVh9K4ztbiDhsJJv-inR25o0KNUNTcyMjdZTTJIRjFUWVpQT0tJT0dPNk44RS4u>

Any student in receipt of Free School Meals will be given a food parcel for the day as they leave school on Thursday.



Students will be expected to attend all of the lessons that are provided. Should you have any IT concerns surrounding devices please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Reporting a positive COVID case

When reporting a positive COVID case, please email meceoffice@maidenerleghtrust.org. This email will be checked daily by myself and my senior team up until 3pm on Thursday 23rd December and should we receive notification of a positive case we will begin tracing and may have to contact you to inform you of a requirement to isolate. This is something that none of my team want to do, and whilst I understand the problems and upset this may cause, I kindly request that you are not rude toward us. Please only use this email for notifying us of positive cases.

Changes to the number of days contacts are required to isolate

It has also been announced today that contacts of confirmed cases will need to isolate for 10 days rather than 14 from Monday. We are awaiting further information about this from the Department for Education and will write to you with further details in due course. The BBC has information at the following link:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-55274147>

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing support, we are in incredibly difficult and unprecedented times and the response of our community continue to make me incredibly proud to be your headteacher.

Yours sincerely

Andy Hartley
Headteacher