

14th December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this letter reaches you and your families in strong health - body, mind and spirit. I am writing with the purpose of communicating some key changes to our term dates.

As some of you will be aware the Department for Education (DFE) communicated last week that they were encouraging all schools to close on **Friday 18th December 2020** for an inset day. The main reason for this is to provide schools with one less day of contact tracing and provide staff with additional time to isolate before they spend time with their families during the festive break. Subsequently, we will be taking this day and holding a virtual inset day, which will be used to prepare for the next term.

Further to this, we will be having an additional inset day on the **5th January**. As a new Principal I did not influence the original term dates, which only provided one inset day on the 4th January. As you are aware this has been an incredibly challenging term, in which I have gained much knowledge on key areas that require improvement at our academy. Therefore, additional time will be spent ensuring our teachers carry out data analysis and action plans for their classes with the objective of raising attainment in the spring term. This will be critical for our year groups (Y6, 11 & 13) who will be completing public examinations this summer. I strongly feel that due to the disturbances caused by COVID19 this term, this additional time is crucial to enable us to deliver a successful spring term.

Below you will find a summary of the key changes:

17th December 2020	Last day of autumn term for students (Primary & Secondary) *This will be a staggered finish replicating our original plans on 18th, see website for details
18th December 2020	Academy INSET day (Primary & Secondary)
4th January 2021	Academy INSET day (Primary & Secondary)
5th January 2021	Academy INSET day (Primary & Secondary)
6th January 2021	First day of spring term for students (Primary & Secondary) *This will be staggered start, see website for details

I thank you in advance for your support during such unpredictable times.

Yours sincerely



Morgan Haines
Principal