

10th December 2020

Dear Pathfinder Colleague

Thank you

Once again, we would like to take this opportunity to thank for your hard work and sheer tenacity through what can only be described as one of the most challenging terms any of us have ever had to face. Our community of Pathfinder colleagues has been the shining light that has kept us going in the darkest moments – thank you.

We are acutely aware that during the remaining days of term if any positive COVID19 cases are confirmed this would result in an isolation period extending into the holidays. I know that we are doing all we can to prevent this happening and we have appealed to our community to continue to support us by being as careful as possible with social contacts during this time.

Department for Education Advice - Change in End of Term Date

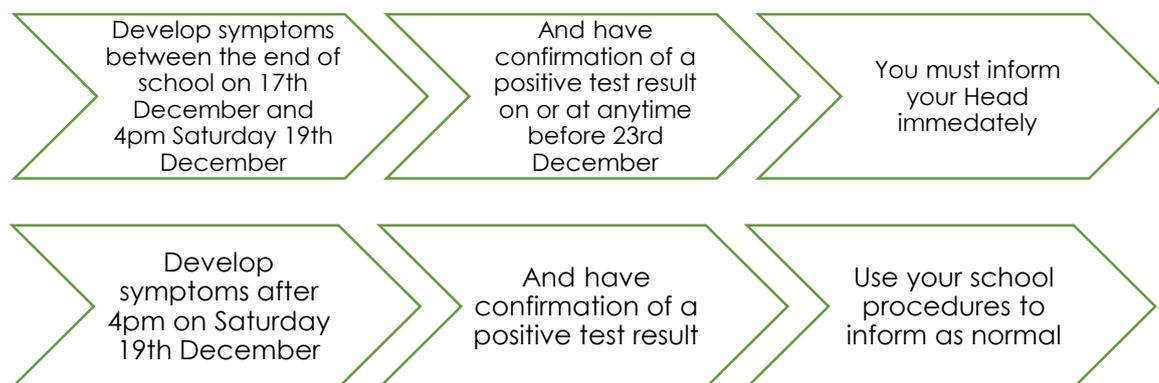
On Tuesday all schools received a communication from the Department for Education giving the option to make Friday 18th December a training day both as a recognition of the tremendous pressure that school staff have been under, whilst also serving to minimise contacts as much as possible. While this is late in the day to receive this from the DfE we support this approach and will be making **Thursday 17th December the last day of term for all our students**. We will carry out our training day on Friday 18th December instead of Monday 21st.

In order to make up the teaching time Friday February 12th, which was originally planned as a training day, will become a teaching day and we will disaggregate the training day into twilight sessions.

Informing us of Positive Cases during the Christmas Break

The procedure to follow from Friday 18th December:

- If you:



If you have any queries or concerns regarding our revised arrangements, please contact your Headteacher in the first instance. Alternatively the Pathfinder Schools HR Manager Nina Adams can be contacted on nadams@pathfinderschools.org.uk

We recognise that the festive period may be challenging and would like to remind you that as a Pathfinder Schools colleague you have access to confidential counselling support, which can be accessed by contacting 0117 934 2121. The charity Education Support also offer a counselling helpline for those working in education, their helpline can be reached on 08000 562 561.

May we take this opportunity to wish you all a happy and healthy holiday period; we look forward to supporting one another through the next stages of the COVID19 pandemic as we move into 2021.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ann Davey". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Ann Davey
Chief Executive