

Benhurst Primary School

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Head teacher: Mrs K. Hart BSc (Hons)

Friday 11th December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Please find below a letter from Julian Dutnall, CEO of LIFE Education Trust, which provides further clarification following the Havering communication shared with you on Monday.



LIFE Education Trust

11th December 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

In the last few days the government and local authority have made several announcements about the end of term and start of the holidays. These focus on when and in what circumstances schools can finish, how Track and Trace will operate during the school holidays and whether schools can allow parents to keep their children off school in the last week if they are worried about them becoming contagious.

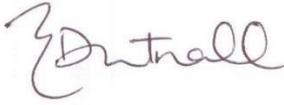
At LIFE we have spent considerable time reading this guidance as it continues to appear and considering our response so that we continue to provide the best and safest education within government guidelines. As a result the Board has agreed the following:

- All LIFE schools will finish as planned on Friday 18th December except The Bridge due to their move into the new building.
- Monday 4th January is a whole Trust INSET day and Roxwell and Margaretting will also have an INSET day on 5th January as planned. We therefore look forward to welcoming pupils back on Tuesday 5th or Wednesday 6th January.
- Schools will continue to isolate individual bubbles and year groups as necessary until the end of term.
- From Friday 18th December, in accordance with Government guidance, schools must be notified of anyone who shows symptoms of Covid-19, or who tests positive, within 48 hours of them attending school. Given that test results may not come back immediately, a named person will be available every day until Thursday 24th December from 8.00am – 12.00pm at each school for you to contact if necessary. The contact details will be provided by each school individually.

- Pupils should continue to attend their school until the last day of term unless they are unwell, are showing symptoms of Covid-19 or they have been told to self-isolate by the school or by Track and Trace.

Thank you for your patience and support during these challenging times and we hope you are able to have an enjoyable Christmas when it finally comes.

With very best wishes



Julian Dutnall
CEO

The key points to note are as follows:

Should your child develop one of the main symptoms of Coronavirus (<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/>) within 48 hours of their last day at school you will need to arrange for them to have a test.

As detailed above, I will be on call between 8am and 12 noon each day from Saturday 19th December until Thursday 24th December. If your child receives a positive test result between these dates, please text the following number 07729086539 stating your child's full name and class, the date they were last in school and the date they became symptomatic. I will confirm I have received your message and call you should I require further information.

Please do not use this number for any other purpose than reporting a Benhurst pupil case.

If a positive test result is received and the child was in school within the 48 hours before they became symptomatic, a whole school letter will be emailed along with a text notification informing the affected year group bubble of the need to self - isolate and the date on which the isolation period ends. Please be aware a year group bubble self - isolation letter could be sent up to and including Christmas Eve depending on the time it takes for test results to be received.

Please can I also remind you of the importance of following Government guidance when returning to school on Tuesday 5th January.

If a member of your household has received a positive test, all household members should self - isolate for 10 days from the onset of symptoms. (This is updated guidance with effect of Monday 14th December)

If a member of your household has developed symptoms, all members of the household should isolate until a negative test result is received.

We hope that it will not be necessary for any bubbles to have to isolate and that everyone is able to enjoy a happy and safe Christmas.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me

Yours Sincerely,



Katherine Hart
Head teacher

