



December 10th 2020

CHANGE TO END OF TERM ARRANGEMENTS

Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you for your continued support during the challenges of the pandemic.

You may be aware that this week, the Government has announced that schools may close to students on December 18th as an additional INSET day. This has been proposed because it will allow schools enough time to carry out any COVID contact tracing before Christmas Eve if we have positive cases in our school community.

In order to maintain maximum COVID safety for our students, staff and families over the Christmas period, I have taken the decision to use December 18th as a staff INSET day. This will replace an INSET day planned for June 2021.

We will now break up for the Christmas break on Thursday December 17th after a full day in school. Work will not be set for students on Friday 18th. All students can still access a range of work from our remote learning portal on the website or from the Oak National Academy if they wish to get further ahead with their studies or go back over work from this term.

Arrangements will be put in place for staff, parents and carers to notify us of any cases that emerge before Christmas Eve, so that we can notify contacts and reduce the risk of virus transmission.

Please continue to follow all of the local restrictions and COVID-safety guidance. In particular, please keep your child at home if they show any of the key COVID symptoms – a fever, a persistent cough or loss of taste/smell. Please notify us if your child is displaying symptoms, ensure family members self-isolate and get a test for your child as soon as possible. The entire household is required to self-isolate if one family member has symptoms and should only stop self-isolating if the person with symptoms tests negative for coronavirus.

I would like to take this chance to thank everyone in our community for all of the efforts and tremendous hard work that have enabled us to keep transmission of cases in school to such a minimum this term. I would especially like to extend my thanks to every member of staff here at Colmers: it has been a tremendous team effort from colleagues working tirelessly to maintain quality education under extremely challenging circumstances. As parents and carers, if you do have the chance to pass on your appreciation to the staff supporting your children, I know how much that will mean to them.

As ever, if you have any queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact school, either via enquiries@colmers.school for general queries or via eleaman@colmers.school if there is something you wish to raise with me directly. We know that Christmas can be a difficult time for many children and families and especially so during this pandemic – please do not hesitate to reach out for help and support before the end of term if you are struggling.

Best wishes,

Emma Leaman
Headteacher