



STANLEY PARK JUNIOR SCHOOL

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Stanley Park Infants' School

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Thursday 10th December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you may have heard in the news on Tuesday afternoon, the Department for Education wrote to schools advising them to review their end of term arrangements, bringing forward the start of the Christmas Holidays by one day. The new advice was issued following consultation with Public Health England and is linked to the important role schools play in contact tracing, to help in the national effort to limit the spread of coronavirus. We feel that having as much time as possible between being in their school 'bubble', then visiting family members, will help to protect our community further.

Both Stanley Park Infants' and Juniors have both agreed that we will adjust our term dates. **Friday 18th December will now be an INSET day. As a result, our school will break up for the start of the Christmas Holidays on Thursday 17 December just after lunch - timings to be confirmed separately by each school.**

The children will return to school on Tuesday 5 January 2021. (Monday 4 January 2021 is a planned INSET Day.) To ensure that children get the full teaching time we will no longer be having the INSET day that was planned for Friday 12th March 2021. This will now be a teaching day.

We recognise that this communication has arrived late in the term; however, due to the announcement only being made on Tuesday afternoon we were unable to inform you any earlier.

Public Health England has agreed a 6-day window after the final day of teaching in which schools are asked to remain contactable so they can assist with contact tracing where necessary. This will allow enough time for positive coronavirus (COVID-19) cases to be identified and confirmed by a test and for relevant contacts in education settings to be traced.

Parents should be aware of the following information and relevant arrangements regarding positive cases in the Christmas Holidays:

- If your child develops symptoms within 48 hours of being in school, and has a positive Covid result please contact the school via email. We will then advise close contacts to self-isolate by text and email.
- Where a pupil or staff member tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), having developed symptoms more than 48 hours since being in school, the school should not be contacted. Parents and carers should follow contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace. (If your child is self-isolating in January, please email the school office giving specific dates.)

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Your sincerely

Mrs A Lamy
Headteacher
SPJS

Mr D D'Souza
Head of School
SPIS