

10th December 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Important Information: Changes to the end of term

We are writing to inform you of changes to the end of the Autumn Term 2020 and to remind you of the start of the Spring Term 2021.

End of the Autumn Term 2020 – Thursday 17 December

The government announced yesterday that schools can make Friday 18th December a non-teaching day in schools. This is to reduce the risk of pupils and staff having to self-isolate over Christmas, and to minimise the need for schools to carry out contact tracing in the Christmas holidays. If the school is notified of any positive Covid-19 cases within the school community, staff will be responsible for tracking and tracing up until Wednesday 23 December.

All students will now finish school for the Christmas break on **Thursday 17 December**, which will be their last day in school of the Autumn Term. This will be a full teaching day and the timings for the end of the day and the staggered dismissal will remain the same as a usual school day. **Friday 18 December**, originally a half day at school, will now become a day with classwork set by staff for periods 1-3 on Satchel One for students to complete at home. There will be no live lessons on this day.

Start of the Spring Term 2021 – Tuesday 5th January 2021

As you will be aware from our published term dates, Monday 4th January is an INSET day for staff. As well as allowing us the opportunity to refine and improve on our online learning offer it will also provide the opportunity to deal with the implications of any positive cases confirmed during the remaining holiday time. Students will return to school on **Tuesday 5th January 2021** and they should come to school at their usual arrival time ready for **week 2** lessons.

We would like to provide details of what to do during the Christmas Holidays should your child become unwell and unfortunately test positive for Covid-19. Up until, and including, **Wednesday 23rd December** please inform the school of any positive test results; you can email attendance@stopasleyhighschool.co.uk with your contact details and your child's details. The emails will be checked regularly during this time. We will contact you to get more details to help us track and trace; this will then enable us to inform any other families if their child is identified as a close contact needing to self-isolate.

Schools will not need to track and trace beyond **Wednesday 23 December** but should your child become unwell, or a member of the household is identified as having Covid-19 before the start of term, then please do email us at attendance@stopasleyhighschool.co.uk This will then allow staff to pick up any emails before the students' return on **Tuesday 5th January 2021**.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support during this term, which has been challenging for all schools. To those members of our school community impacted by illness this term we would like to thank you for your openness in sharing the outcomes of any Covid-19 tests. We have also greatly appreciated your understanding when we have had to require students to self-isolate and study online at short notice following our track and trace procedures. Your support has ultimately helped to keep the school community as safe as possible during this time.

We wish you all a lovely Christmas break and look forward to welcoming students back in the New Year!

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "P Whiting". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'P' and a long horizontal stroke.

Pam Whiting
Deputy Headteacher

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "K Hand". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'K' and a long horizontal stroke.

Karen Hand
Deputy Headteacher