



TO CARE
TO LEARN
TO ACHIEVE

BEDFORD HIGH SCHOOL
A Specialist Business and Enterprise College
with Applied Learning
Headteacher: Mrs H J Phillips



December 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians

As we approach the end of our first term in school which, given the circumstances, has gone as well as could be expected I would like to thank all of our students and you, their families, for your fortitude. I hope that you are able to enjoy some semblance of Christmas celebrations with your loved ones and look forward to the New Year with optimism. School will close for Christmas on **Friday 18th December at 1.40pm.**

That said, Covid remains with us and I have to provide you with some information in relation to what schools have been asked to do over the Christmas holiday.

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 the school setting to be traced. Beyond 6 days after the final day of teaching, school is not asked to play a role in contact tracing.

To summarise you need to be aware of the following information and relevant arrangements regarding positive cases in the holidays:

- Where a student or staff member tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), having developed symptoms **more than 48 hours since being in school**, the school **does not** need to be contacted. Parents and guardians should follow contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace.
- For the first 6 days after teaching ends, if a student or staff member tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), having developed symptoms **within 48 hours of being in school**, the school **does need** to be contacted as we have been asked to assist in identifying close contacts and advising self-isolation, as the student or staff member may have been infectious whilst in school.
- School staff are not asked to remain on-call or conduct any contact tracing more than 6 days after the final day of teaching. As our last teaching day will be Friday 18th December, school will not need to do any student contact tracing beyond Thursday 24th December.

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enquiries@bedford.wigan.sch.uk

www.bedfordhighschool.co.uk



@BedfordHighSch



@Bedford High School Live



Artsmark
Gold Award
Awarded by Arts
Council England



If your child tests positive for Covid 19 please inform the school on enquiries@bedford.wigan.sch.uk and let us know the date that their symptoms started, or in the absence of any symptoms, the date of their positive test.

If we do have to undertake contact tracing during the holiday we will advise close contacts by text or email.

If your child has to self-isolate due to contact during the Christmas Holidays with a positive case or they test positive themselves and they are unable to return to school at the start of term on **Tuesday 5th January 2021**, please phone the absence line on the first day of the new term in the usual way.

Apologies that my last letter of the year up to this point isn't very festive!

Let's try to change that. As many of you will know, here at Bedford we usually mark the end of the Autumn term with Christmas shows and concerts featuring talented students from all years. At the end of this year, Bedford Expressive Arts Faculty is delighted to present an online Christmas Celebration, showcasing the work of students in all year groups across the Expressive Arts Faculty. Tickets are 60p and all proceeds are being donated to charity. Further information is available on our website and social media pages. Here's the link to buy your tickets:

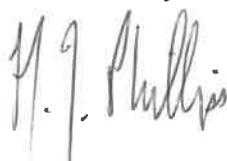
<https://www.wisepay.co.uk/store/generic/template.asp?mID=34921&ACT=nav&extacc=1>

Click on General Payment then Virtual Christmas Celebration. Last date to buy is 16th December. Please tell all your family and friends!

The show will be made available via a private channel online from 17th December. Once you have purchased your ticket, an email will be sent to the registered email address with the link to the concert. Enjoy!

I do, of course, hope that you are all able to take a break and enjoy some family time together. I look forward to all of our students returning, safe and well, in the New Year on Tuesday 5th January.

Yours faithfully,



Mrs H J Phillips