



11<sup>th</sup> December 2020

Dear parents and carers,

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December – INSET day.

As I'm sure you will have seen in the news this week, there has been much coverage of the Department for Education's announcement that schools are able to allocate Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December as a training day for staff. The media coverage will have cited many reasons for this announcement and at DEC we have considered what we feel is best for pupils and staff.

After careful consideration and on balance, we have decided to follow the Department for Education's suggestion and I am writing here to notify you that Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December will now be an INSET day and pupils will not be required in school. This means that the Autumn Term will end and pupils will break up for Christmas on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December at 3pm. The final day of term will be a normal full school day with normal lessons.

As you will have seen on the school calendar, school will be closed for staff-training days on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January & Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021. Students will therefore, not be required to attend school on these days. School will re-open again at the normal time on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all parents and carers for their unwavering support this term, your kind emails of thanks and appreciation and above all for making sure pupil's attendance remains strong. We have had a fantastic and relatively undisrupted term with a great deal of accelerated progress made by pupils. We feel incredibly proud of the immense work of leaders and staff who have made the return to school in this unprecedented of years so successful. We feel even more proud of the resilience and tenacity shown by our amazing pupils.

Yours sincerely,

Mr M Dunn  
Head Teacher

