



11th December 2020

Good afternoon Dowson families,

Please see the letter from the Enquire Learning trust regarding track and trace over the Christmas period. The only contact that will be checked over the holidays to deal with a case is via the following email address:

covid@dowson.tameside.sch.uk

A quick message for you to consider as we approach Christmas.

We know that as Christmas nears, the temptation to see friends and family will be there for some. What we ask as a school community is that you consider the potential impact of this on your children and the wider school staff and families.

Today marks 2 weeks until Christmas Day. That means that should a child test positive from this weekend onwards then their whole family they live with; their entire school bubble and the staff that work with that bubble will have to self-isolate for the Christmas period, including Christmas Day. They will not be able to leave the house for any reason other than an emergency. This means that some staff may not be able to see their children, grandchildren or parents and siblings, some children won't be able to see a parent or grandparents.

I do not want to have to contact anyone over the last few days (or the first few of the holidays) to give the news that they have to isolate. Please be considerate of others when making decisions regarding what you do over the next couple of weeks. We cannot choose some of the things that we do such as attend school or go to work, nor can we eradicate the risk of catching or spreading the virus completely. We can however, consciously reduce our contacts - and therefore the risk - as much as possible in order to all work towards the light relief that many of us are hoping the festive period will bring.

Please follow the rules more stringently than ever before in these last few days so that our community – and your family - is not devastated by a last minute closure / isolation.

Thank you for your support,

Yours sincerely,

Mrs K.L. Thornburn
Principal