



# LITTLE ILFORD SCHOOL

COURAGE • COMMITMENT • COMPASSION

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Co-Headteachers:

Ian Wilson

Helen Marriott

11 December 2020

Dear Parent or Carer

As the Christmas holidays draw near, we wanted to contact you to thank you for your support, to wish you well, and to confirm some of the practical arrangements for the end of term and during the holidays.

### Arrangements for the end of term

There has been a lot of discussion at national level about the role of schools in track and trace over the school holidays. It is difficult to avoid the fact that schools are the only ones who have the information about the contacts that the students have had. The DfE are working on the assumption that schools may be dealing with Covid issues up until Christmas Eve.

You will be aware that, as a result, the DfE has announced that schools are allowed to move an INSET day from later in the year to the final day of term. We had planned to hold twilight INSET training sessions at a later date and can now bring these forward to next Friday. **The school will therefore be closed to pupils on Friday 18th December for staff training, meaning that the end of term will commence on Thursday, 17th December when pupils will leave school at the usual time.**

We hope you understand our decision to prioritise staff and student safety and wellbeing by minimising potential contact time. It will also allow us to reduce the number of days when teachers will need to deal with track and trace issues during the holidays.

### Requirements for pupils who test positive during the holidays

Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, schools have played a key role in continuing to serve communities whilst implementing 'contain' measures whenever a positive case has been identified in school. This work does not stop when the holidays arrive. We thought it would be helpful to outline the requirements for pupils who test positive during the holiday period.

- **The school will only need to be notified about a child testing positive for COVID-19 if they develop symptoms before midnight on Saturday, 19th December, if they were last in school on Thursday 17th December or if they were asymptomatic but tested positive before midnight on Saturday, 19th December.**

“ ... an excellent ambassador for community cohesion within the locality - OFSTED ”



- If your child develops COVID symptoms between Thursday 17th and Saturday 19th December, and they were in school in the preceding 48 hour period, this may mean that other pupils and staff who have been in contact with them will need to isolate for 14 days.
- Families must be tested immediately so that any confirmed COVID cases can be identified as soon as possible, which includes us contacting staff and families and asking them to isolate.
- Please inform us of the test as soon as you are aware of it, using the email [info@littleilford.org](mailto:info@littleilford.org).
- **If your child develops symptoms on or after Sunday, 20th December**, the school does not need to take further action so we are not asking you to inform us until we return in January. In this case, you would need to engage with the NHS test and trace service.

Thank you again for your continued support.

Yours faithfully

Ian Wilson/Helen Marriott  
Co-headteachers