



9 September 2021

Dear parents, guardians, carers,

The overwhelming majority of parents continue to be supportive of the adjustments we have made in school. I have left reference to current Covid precautions as an appendix to this letter for those who have approached us for clarification. Thankfully, further Covid restrictions have not been imposed.

**Dates for your diaries – please note changes**

Last term we stated that we would update you on diary matters for this term including details about Thursday. On **Thursday (16<sup>th</sup> September)**, school will close at lunchtime. As we are still able to proceed with our Staff Training and Open Evening preparations, the arrangements are as follows: 12.30 finish for all students. A packed lunch will be available for children with free school meals and a separate text will be forwarded with a link to register for this. Teachers will be setting homework accordingly.

INSET Days this year have now been finalised for the remains of the year. School will be closed to pupils on these days:

Wednesday 1 December 2021

Tuesday 4 January 2022

Tuesday 28 June 2022

Thursday 21 July 2022

Friday 22 July 2022

The adjustments reflect the updates in light of the announcement about the Royal Jubilee Bank Holiday. The full-term dates are available on the following link: [Term Dates | Poole High School](#)

Yours sincerely

Mr P Gray  
Headteacher

See next page for Appendix

## Appendix re. Current Covid Safety Precautions at Poole High School

One or two queries have come into school asking for clarification about the use of face masks. This week we have seen a number of positive test results in school. Thank you in advance for being so mindful of the continued risks and health precautions. Please continue with the advice: persist with Lateral Flow Tests; please do not send your child into school if they have Covid symptoms. The Governors have formally sought advice on the matter. Please note the following:

**Mitigation 1 (Physical constraints)** Unlike some schools, we have removed 'bubbles' this term to ensure your child has a better-quality education e.g. access to science laboratories for science experiments.

**Mitigation 2 (face coverings)** As Mitigation 1 has been removed, there is a potentially heightened risk. Governors have therefore made the decision to **continue with** face coverings in line with the government's expectations. Face coverings will be used in transition in the school where different year groups can come into contact. At the start and end of each lesson, students will be instructed to remove / apply their face mask. They are not required to sit through lessons wearing their masks.

This approach is consistent with the government advice: "The government ... expects and recommends that they (*face coverings*) are worn in enclosed and crowded spaces where you may come into contact with people you don't normally meet."

Students have been incredibly supportive and responsible about these matters. Please do not put us in a position whereby we need to respond to a child for defying a reasonable request for the short time they need to travel between lessons.