

Monday 18th January

Dear Parents and Carers

Additional Staff Development (INSET) Day

I hope that this letter finds you well. As we continue to navigate the current situation and look ahead to the return to school for the majority of pupils and staff, we have taken the decision to add an additional staff development day (INSET day) to our calendar for this year.

This has been scheduled for Monday 22nd February. This date will however remain subject to change should the national restrictions and partial school closures continue after February Half Term. Our schools will inform you should this change at any time.

We have made the decision to do this in light of the current COVID-19 pandemic and the evolving government guidance that schools are required to implement including, the testing of staff before the return to school. We will need this time to ensure the schools are ready to reopen to all pupils and any training staff required to support mass testing and new guidance around Year 11 assessment for this year is implemented. Having this day will ensure that all of our staff are ready and prepared to welcome your child back to learning on site.

We have made this decision now rather than wait for the government announcement about the reopening of schools, so that you are provided with as much notice about this day as possible.

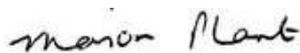
On Monday 22nd February our schools will be closed to pupils, however subject teachers will provide work for pupils to complete on this day independently. Provision can be provided for the children of keyworkers in exceptional circumstances and these parents are asked to contact your child's school if you will need this on this day.

We are grateful for your support and will inform you as soon as possible, our plans for the reopening of the schools once we have received guidance and information from the government as to when this will be.

Thank you for all you are doing to support your child in completing the remote learning being set by our schools, it has been wonderful to see and hear all the positive feedback you have been sharing and sending to them during the lockdown.

I wish you all the best at this time. Take care and stay safe.

Kind regards



Marion Plant OBE
Chief Executive Officer