



Wednesday, 9 December 2020

Dear Families

### **Change of the end of term date to Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> December 2020**

I hope that all is well as you prepare to welcome in the Christmas and New Year holidays. We are writing to let you know that Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December will now be a CPD day and that the school will be closed to all students. We are finalising the arrangements for the staggered end time on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December and we will contact you on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December with these details. This decision has been made in line with advice received yesterday (8<sup>th</sup> December) from the Department for Education and the Local Authority.

Please be aware of the following important information and arrangements regarding positive cases that occur in the holidays:

- If a student tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) within 6 days of teaching ending, having developed symptoms within 48 hours of being in school, the school will identify close contacts and advise on self-isolation, as the individual may have been infectious whilst in school. Please contact the school via our email address [covid@sydenham.lewisham.sch.uk](mailto:covid@sydenham.lewisham.sch.uk).
- If a student tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), having developed symptoms more than 48 hours since being in school, the school should not be contacted. Parents and carers should follow contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace.

We also wanted to remind you about how you can continue to support the school in ensuring that we maintain the relatively low incidence of positive COVID-19 cases in the school. It is very important that the government guidelines, found [here](#), are followed very carefully. This includes ensuring that you get your child tested if they show any of [these signs](#). Please can you keep your child at home, self-isolating, until the results of the COVID-19 test are known. The dedicated COVID-19 email address listed above has been set up in order to receive any information that is relevant to the school in terms of students undergoing COVID-19 tests and the results. Please can you ensure that the results of any COVID-19 test are communicated to the school as soon as you receive them including during out of school hours and the weekends.

As we approach the Christmas holidays, it is vital that you follow national guidelines to ensure that you are able to enjoy the break, without having to self-isolate. We want all of our families to have a restful and peaceful time together. This has been a challenging year for us all and it would be a great shame to risk catching the COVID-19 virus. Finally, please can you ensure that your children are not involved in sleepovers, birthday celebrations etc. as this puts all of us in the school community at risk.

**Remember: Hands (washing or sanitising regularly), Face (covering) and Space (2m distance).**



# SYDENHAM SCHOOL

Specialist Science and Mathematics School



High  
Performance  
Learning

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Thank you for your ongoing co-operation and support of the school which we are hugely appreciative of. We wish you and your families a healthy and peaceful holiday and look forward to welcoming all students and staff back to school on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Lowe

Headteacher