



# THE BAIRD PRIMARY ACADEMY

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Principal: Carly Welch

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

## **Re: Additional INSET day – Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020**

The Department for Education has recognised the challenges schools across the UK have faced and the additional work caused by the role we have played in contact tracing. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank our families for their support and the part they have played in keeping us informed to ensure that we are able to follow the track and trace guidelines so effectively. This, to date, has contributed massively to the national effort to limit the spread of the virus.

Yesterday, it was announced that Public Health England has agreed to a 6-day window after the final day of teaching in which the academy will remain contactable so we can continue to assist with contact tracing where necessary. This will allow enough time for positive coronavirus (COVID-19) cases to be identified and confirmed by a test and for relevant contacts within our academy to be traced. Beyond 6 days after the final day of teaching, we are not asked to play a role in any contact tracing.

In light of the above arrangements, the Trust has decided to follow government advice and will be closing our gates on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December and will hold an additional INSET day on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December to provide a more significant gap between the end of teaching and the beginning of family gatherings over the festive period. **This means our provision for vulnerable pupils and keyworker families will be closed on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December.**

### **Important Information Below:**

- Where a pupil 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 - <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testingand-tracing/>
- For the first 6 days after teaching ends (i.e until Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> December), if a pupil tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), having developed symptoms within 48 hours of being in school, parents should contact the academy on 07785 615092 or by emailing the office at [office@thebairdprimaryacademy.org.uk](mailto:office@thebairdprimaryacademy.org.uk)
- School staff will not be on-call or conduct any contact tracing more than 6 days after the final day of teaching. There should be no pupil contact tracing asks beyond Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> December.

- Where pupils are required to self-isolate due to contact with a positive case after the first 6 days following the end of term, schools do not need to be informed about their absence until the first day of the new term.

Thank you for your ongoing support over this time. As the academy will be closed on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December, we will not be providing online learning or provision in school.

As always if you are worried about anything or need support, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs C Welch  
Principal