

UPDATED

10 December 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: End of term arrangements

Students last day on site will be Thursday 17th December and not Friday 18th as previously advertised.

I am writing to you about a few final things before we finish the term. Firstly, in regards to reporting Covid cases during the holidays. It is important for you to be aware that you must continue to contact the Academy if any students have a confirmed case, up to and including Wednesday 23rd December. You should do this through the office email at schoolclosure@merrillacademy.derby.sch.uk giving:

- the child's name
- their year group
- any dates that symptoms first began or that testing took place
- any supporting evidence

We are sorry to inform you of this so late in the term but this guidance was only given to schools on Tuesday this week.

Specific guidance from the DfE is listed below:

- Where a pupil or staff member 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.
- For the first 6 days after teaching ends, if a pupil or staff member tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), having developed symptoms within 48 hours of being in school, the school is asked to assist in identifying close contacts and advising self-isolation, as the individual may have been infectious whilst in school.
- School staff are not asked to remain on-call or conduct any contact tracing more than 6 days after the final day of teaching. Where a schools last teaching day is on Thursday 17 December, there should be no pupil contact tracing asks beyond Wednesday 23 December.

These guidelines are in place so that we can continue to carry out tracing of students/staff who they may have been in close contact with. Please do ensure that we are made aware so that students/staff who would need to self-isolate can be informed. We want to keep everyone as safe as we possibly can over the holidays, students/staff and your wider families.

Your child will now leave the academy at the following times on Thursday 17th December after collecting their takeaway lunch:

Year group	7	8	9	10	11
Exit Time	13.00	13.10	12.50	13.00	13.10
Gate	Canal Path 2	Canal Path 2	Canal Path 1	Bike shed gate	Canal Path 1

UPDATED

Friday 18th December will be a remote learning day. Teachers will set remote learning tasks for all students, in all year groups, to be completed at home.

Finally, **students return to School on Tuesday 5th January '21** (As Monday is an Inset day) at the normal school time through their normal year bubble entrance. They will be in full uniform.

Yours faithfully



Ms J Harlow
Headteacher