

RP/tb – 10th December 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: End and Start of Term Arrangements

As we approach the end of what has been a long and at times challenging term, I wanted to write to thank you for your continued support. Whilst there has been disruption to learning for all year groups at some point, including to Year 10 who are currently self-isolating, this has been limited to days rather than weeks for most students.

With the Christmas break only a short time away, I would request your support in encouraging your child to stick more than ever to the protective measures we have in place in school. This includes wearing a face mask in any communal areas and as they move around the site, sanitising or washing their hands at regular intervals and at every point they enter or leave a class room or building, and maintaining a social distance of 2m+ from their peers whenever possible. Students have been brilliant in following these measures and I would hate, so close to Christmas, to be having to ask individuals to self-isolate over the festive period and for them to miss the chance to meet with friends and family.

As you may be aware, the Department for Education contacted schools earlier this week to encourage them to consider designating Friday 18th December a non-teaching day. The proposal has been made in order that School Leaders can continue to carry out contact tracing for any newly reported COVID cases for a six-day period after the last day that students have been in school. Having considered the number of other local schools that have chosen to do the same, I have now taken the decision, in consultation with the Northworthy Trust, to close the school to all students on Friday 18th. Teachers have been asked to set work for the classes that they would have been teaching on the 18th.

I appreciate that this late change may cause some inconvenience, but I also hope that it will reduce the chance of any new infections being contracted in school in the run-up to the Christmas and New Year period. The school still has responsibility for contact tracing COVID cases in the school community until Wednesday 23rd December. It is important for you to be aware that you must continue to contact the school if any students have a confirmed case, up to and including this date. You should do this by emailing Covid19@longeaton.derbyshire.sch.uk and provide the following information:

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

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 school's last teaching day is on Thursday 17th December, there should be no pupil contact tracing beyond Wednesday 23rd December.

Students in each year group will break up for the Christmas holidays after their lunch break on Thursday 17th December. The staggered day means students will finish at the following times:

Year Group	Finish Time
7	12.55 pm
8	12.25 pm
9	1.25 pm
10	1.55 pm
11	2.25 pm
12 + 13	2 pm

We have requested that the Shardlow Bus collects students at 2.30pm, but have yet to receive confirmation. We will contact parents when we have received this.

Students will return from the Christmas break on Tuesday 5th January at their usual staggered start times.

As you may already be aware, The Northworthy Trust is going through the process of a merger with Archway Learning Trust, a process that will likely be completed in early spring. The Archway CEO, Sian Hampton, has asked that the following message be shared with you.

Dear Parents and Students

We are excited to introduce ourselves to you.

After Christmas, The Long Eaton School will be merging with Archway Learning Trust. Archway Learning Trust is a successful and vibrant family of five schools based in Nottingham City, ranging from primary to secondary aged children. By joining this Trust

you will be joining a successful and happy family of learners, where every child is valued and where parents are seen as integral to the progress and success of students.

The vision statement of Archway is 'working together, transforming lives.' We believe passionately in the potential of every young person in our care and will work collaboratively across the Trust to ensure that care is the best that it can be.

*To find out more about our schools and the Trust, log onto our website:
<https://www.archwaytrust.co.uk/>.*

We are also pleased to be joined by so many talented and skilled teachers and associate staff from the Northworthy Trust. We are looking forward to building and growing this staff team, so that both students and staff get the best opportunities for development and progress.

We will write again after Christmas with more details of some of the new and exciting things that will be happening as this family of learners grows.

*Sian Hampton
CEO Archway Learning Trust*

Finally, I'd like to take this opportunity to wish you a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Yours faithfully
The Long Eaton School

R Peel

Mr R Peel
Headteacher