



Tweeddale Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs Terrie Jerrom

Dear Parents/Carers,

On Tuesday, the Department for Education wrote to schools advising them to review their end of term arrangements, bringing forward the start of the Christmas Holidays by one day. The new advice was issued following consultation with Public Health England and is linked to the important role schools play in contact tracing, to help in the national effort to limit the spread of coronavirus.

Friday 18 December will now be an INSET Day for all Tweeddale Primary School. As a result, our school will break up for the start of the Christmas Holidays on Thursday 17 December. Please collect your child from school at the usual time on this day.

The children will return to school on Tuesday 5 January 2021. Monday 4 January 2021 is an INSET Day.

Our planned INSET Day on Monday 19 April 2021 has now been cancelled. Children will attend school as usual on this day.

Confirmation of our Spring & Summer Term Dates for 2021 is below:

SPRING TERM - Tuesday 5 January - Friday 12 February

Half Term - Monday 15 February - Friday 19 February

Tuesday 23 February - Wednesday 31 March

Easter Holiday Thursday 1 April - Friday 16 April

INSET Days Monday 4 January & Friday 22 January (No school for pupils)

SUMMER TERM Monday 19 April - Friday 28 May

(May Day Bank Holiday will be taken on 3 May)

Half Term Monday 31 May - Friday 4 June

Monday 7 June - Friday 23 July

Finally, Public Health England has agreed a 6 day window after the final day of teaching in which schools are asked to remain contactable so they can 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 in education settings to be traced.



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Parents should be aware of the following information and relevant arrangements regarding positive cases in the Christmas Holidays:

- 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 17 December, there should be no pupil contact tracing by the school beyond Wednesday 23 December.

For the first 6 days after the end of term, please contact the school via our designated covid email address (covidtest@tweeddale.org) if you need to notify us of a positive case. We will then advise close contacts to self-isolate by text and email.

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.

Your sincerely,

Mrs Terrie Jerrom
Headteacher