



Telford Infant School

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Dear Parents and Carers,

CHANGE TO END OF TERM ARRANGEMENTS

You may have seen in the media today the news from the DfE that schools can end the Autumn term one day early on Thursday 17th December with Friday 18th December being designated as an INSET day. The purpose of this is to:

- Reduce the chances of pupils and teachers being close contacts with a confirmed Covid case.
- Ensure school leaders do not have to complete contact tracing beyond 23rd December. We will be able to receive notification of any positive test results from Thursday 17th December to Wednesday 23rd December.

The last day of the Autumn term for pupils at Telford Infant and Telford Junior Schools will therefore be Thursday 17th December. SMILES Club will also be closing from 6pm on that day. Telford Juniors will also be sending a letter to Junior parents -the two schools have worked closely to reach this decision.

We are sorry for the late notice of this announcement which was made by the DfE only yesterday afternoon after several weeks of telling schools that they will not close early for the Christmas period. We share your frustrations as this is yet another last minute decision impacting on families and our staff team that would have been better planned for should this decision have been made at an earlier date. As a school we do not want to cause any more disruption for our families but have chosen to make this decision in line with our cluster of local schools after discussions with local headteachers, governors and the Local Authority. We are once again asked to make a choice that some will welcome and some will not.

The announcement also clarified instructions around if and when to alert us of a positive Covid case over the Christmas break:

Situation	What to do	How to contact school
If your child falls ill after school on Thurs 17 th , Fri 18 th , Sat 19 th December and then tests positive .	Contact the school. Please be clear about the exact date that symptoms started.	Email: admin2326@welearn365.com
If your child is asymptomatic but gets a positive test result on Fri 18 th or Sat 19 th December.	Contact the school. Please state the date of the test.	Email: admin2326@welearn365.com
If your child falls ill from Sun 20 th December onwards.	No need to contact the school	
If your child takes a test from Sun 20 th onwards and the receives a positive test result.		

If your child starts self isolation during the holiday and this affects their return to school on Tuesday 5th January please phone or email the school to report this absence.

If your family (or a family you know) is in need of support over the Christmas break, the following help is available:

- Support with relationships, parenting, housing, finance, health and wellbeing – from Warwickshire's Family Information Service (01926 742274)
- Free school meals and other financial support – from Warwickshire Local Welfare Scheme (0800 4081448 or 01926 359182)
- Food bank vouchers - from your doctor, social worker, the police or Citizens Advice Bureau
- Children at risk of harm – contact Warwickshire's Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (01926 414144)

We would like to thank you all for your patience and understanding through this highly disrupted term.

Monday 4th January was already set as an INSET day and therefore I look forward to seeing your children back on Tuesday 5th January. I hope you are all able to enjoy a safe and happy family break

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Siân Oustayiannis
Headteacher

Mrs Sarah Boad
Chair of Governors

