



The Bishop Konstant Catholic Academy Trust

Learning Communities, Inspired by Faith

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Dear Parents,

RE: SCHOOL CLOSURE – FRIDAY 18TH DECEMBER

The Department for Education has today communicated with all school leaders to issue guidance on end of term planning. As part of this correspondence, it outlines the important role which school leaders will play in contact tracing and helping in the national effort to limit the spread of the virus.

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 the education setting to be traced.

To ensure that staff get the time off they need and deserve, schools have been advised to use an INSET day, changing Friday 18th December to a non-teaching day in which the school is closed to all staff and pupils. As a result, for **all** schools in the Trust, the last day of term will now be Thursday 17th December.

Schools will be closed to staff and pupils on Friday 18th December.

The DfE recognise that this communication has been shared late in the term with school leaders and therefore you, as parents, are also receiving this information at very short notice. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.

May I take this opportunity to place on record my thanks to you as parents for all the support you have given to your school community over the Autumn term. News this week of the vaccination programme starting has given us all hope that the end is in sight. We hope that this news and your continued good health will allow for you to enjoy the festive period with your loved ones when we celebrate, once again, the joy of the Christmas message.

Yours sincerely,

Lesley Fitton
CEO