



# Thurton

Church of England VC Primary School



10<sup>th</sup> December 2020

Dear Parents / Carers

You may be aware that school leaders received a communication from the Department of Education Tuesday evening suggesting that all schools use Friday 18th December as an INSET day for staff meaning that the school will be shut to pupils. This is to support the government's efforts to continue with Test and Trace after term ends so that, should there be any positive cases from our community, we will still be able to contact families.

We can confirm that, after consultation with the Governors, and following further guidance from the Local Authority, we will be following the Department of Education's expectation and therefore the last day of term will be Thursday 17th December when pupils will attend for a normal day and we will be closed on Friday 18th December to all pupils as the start of the Christmas break. To compensate for this extra day of the Christmas Holidays, we will be open for an additional day at the end of the year: Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July.

The Department of Education recognises that this communication has arrived with schools late in the term and have asked schools to be as helpful to parents as they can by sharing any changes to end of term arrangements as soon as possible.

If you receive a positive test in the holidays, we would ask you to observe the following:

- 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 (Saturday evening), you should contact the school (by using the following email address: [office@thurton.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:office@thurton.norfolk.sch.uk)), as the individual may have been infectious whilst in school. This will allow the school to contact the appropriate groups as part of the Test and Trace process.
- 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 asks beyond Wednesday 23rd December.

It has been a challenging year in many ways, and we hope that by observing all of the processes above we give all of our families the best chance of a happy, healthy holiday.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support of the school this year and to wish you a safe and happy Christmas break.

Yours sincerely

Mr J Barber  
Headteacher

**Thurton Church of England  
VC Primary School**

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**Headteacher:**  
Mr Jonathan Barber

**Deputy Head:**  
Mrs Esther Scorey

**Chair of Governors:**  
Mrs Maggie Coe

**Rector:**  
Revd. Chris Ellis



LOtC Mark (Bronze)

