



# Dashwood Banbury Academy

an Aspirations Academy

Growing together; succeeding together

Amy Rogers – Principal

Merton Street, Banbury, OX16 4RX

Telephone: 01295 263240

Email: [office@dashwood-aspirations.org](mailto:office@dashwood-aspirations.org)

Web: [dashwood-aspirations.org](http://dashwood-aspirations.org)

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## Revised end of term date for pupils (Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December)

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am writing to inform you of a change in the end of term arrangements. With the ongoing difficulties arising from the pandemic, the Government has issued guidance yesterday setting out that schools should consider **moving an INSET day** from later in the year to make **Friday 18 December a non-teaching day**. Therefore, with careful consideration and consultation with the Aspirations Academies Trust management team, we have decided an earlier end to the term would support families and teaching staff to minimise the risk of isolation over the Christmas period. This means that we will now have an INSET day on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December but no longer have the one planned for the 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2021.

I therefore confirm that the last day that your child(ren) will attend school this term will be **Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December**. School will finish as normal at your time slot on the 17<sup>th</sup> December and after school club will also still run that day. The resumption of school in January will be as previously communicated (Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January for Reception to Year 6 and Nursery pupils have been given their return dates directly due to home visits taking place).

While I hope very much that your child and all your family remain well, in accordance with the Government guidance it is important that you are aware of the following information and relevant arrangements regarding positive cases in the holidays.

If your child develops **symptoms of Covid-19 within 48 hours of being in school (on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup>, Friday 18<sup>th</sup> or Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> December)**, you **must inform us** and get your child tested. If they have tested positive, the school will assist in identifying close contacts and advising self-isolation, as they may have been infectious whilst in school. If this occurs, you must ensure you email Mrs Rogers or Mrs Gordon-Weeks at [principal@dashwood-aspirations.org](mailto:principal@dashwood-aspirations.org) or [sgordon-weeks@dashwood-aspirations.org](mailto:sgordon-weeks@dashwood-aspirations.org). We will liaise as necessary with the Department for Education helpline and PHE advice service to identify and make contact with anyone else in school who would need to self-isolate.

If your child were to test positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), having developed symptoms **more than 48 hours since being in school (so after Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> December)**, the school should **not be** contacted. In these circumstances you should follow contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace and email the office address if for any reason your child will not be returning on the planned date in January.

Once again, I apologise for any inconvenience caused to you by the late notification of the change to end of term arrangements but I do hope that that this helps us all to have a relaxed and safe Christmas holiday period.

Yours sincerely

*AERogers*

**Mrs Amy Rogers**  
Principal



Talk for Writing

