



CEO/Principal: Matthew Corrigan
Westcott Close, Plymouth, PL6 5YB Tel: 01752 779061 Fax: 01752 766650
Email: mailbox@eggbuckland.com Website: www.eggbuckland.com



Austin Farm
Academy

10th December 2020



Dear Parents/Carers

COVID and the December Holiday

On Wednesday of this week, schools received some complex guidance from the DfE about how, working together, we can keep to a minimum the numbers of families having to self-isolate over the festive period. Below is a summary which I hope you find useful:

- 1) The staggered release of our students from 12pm to 12:10pm on Friday 18th December will remain unchanged. Any child not able leave College until 1:25pm (the initial release time) will be supervised in their bubbles.
- 2) If your child shows the signs of a COVID:19 infection within 48 hours of the end of school (12pm Friday 18th December through to 12pm Sunday 20th December) they should take a COVID test. If this test comes back positive, please immediately contact the College by going to the College website and accessing the '**Christmas track and trace**' link. This will take you to a form that needs to be completed. This form, when submitted, will automatically be emailed to a member of our Leadership Team.
- 3) When this form is received and it is confirmed that the child tested positive did, indeed, have their most infectious time at College on the last two days of term, the member of staff will contact this family to ask about close and prolonged contacts the child had in the last two days of College. We will then contact these (potentially infected) students and their families by email and/or text to inform them of the need to self-isolate for a two week period, ending Friday 1st January 2021. As long as these students do not develop COVID:19 symptoms, it is not necessary for the whole household to self-isolate, only the students themselves.
- 4) If a child becomes symptomatic **after 12pm on Sunday 20th December**, families are expected to apply for a COVID:19 test. If this comes back positive, the household will be required to self-isolate for a two week period, in line with Public Health guidelines. **It is not necessary to inform the College until the start of term on 4th January January** when we will need to know your child's return date.

Over the next few days of term, to further reduce the numbers having to self-isolate over the festive period, please follow Public Health advice that reinforces the *importance of keeping children at home if anyone in the household is showing COVID:19 symptoms*.



LEARNING | CARING | ACHIEVING
THE PERFECT ENVIRONMENT



Austin Farm
Academy

Students should only return to College when and if the COVID:19 test for the person displaying symptoms comes back negative.

Let's hope we all enjoy a warm, comfortable and memorable Christmas.

Best wishes and many thank you, as always, for your support.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matthew Corrigan".

Matthew Corrigan
CEO/Principal

