



# Elmwood School

Believe you can

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**Executive Head Teacher**

Mrs Helen Farnell

10 December 2020

Dear Parents Carers

As we approach the end of the term, I wanted to write to you to remind you of end of term arrangements and to share with you the latest guidance received by the Government.

You will be aware that we have been placed under Tier 2 of the national restrictions. You will also be aware that in Somerset the number of positive cases of COVID has risen from when students fully returned to school in September.

You will also be aware that close contact of a person who has tested positive for COVID-19, or those who share a household, are required to self-isolate for fourteen days. As we approach the festive period there is some additional information I need to share with you.

Any positive cases in school will mean that individuals will have to self-isolate for at least part of the Christmas holidays. To reduce the risks as much as possible we would like to remind everyone of the following:

- Should students have any of the three main symptoms (high temperature, persistent or new cough, loss of smell or taste) they must stay at home.
- Students should also stay at home if any member of their household has these symptoms and only return to school if the member of their household tests negative.
- Students must self-isolate for 14 days if they have been in close contact of someone who tests positive for COVID-19.
- If students display any of the above symptoms, they will be sent home from school.

As we head towards the winter months, this can be very confusing as children start to suffer from the usual coughs and colds, but we are being careful and will ask you to keep your child home if they do start to cough, we will ask you to arrange for them to be tested where appropriate.

It is important that we continue to monitor any positive cases within our school staff and students and would ask that you contact me if your child tests positive for COVID-19 during the school holidays. This will ensure that we can alert anyone who may have been in close contact with your child during the incubation period and that we can notify Public Health who are monitoring the cases within our schools. Please contact me by email [hfarnell@educ.somerset.gov.uk](mailto:hfarnell@educ.somerset.gov.uk), text or phone on 07904757483. I would like to ask you to read the attached leaflet from Public Health which explains about the incubation period and what actions to take.

We have continued to work in bubbles across the school during the term and have restricted visitors in to school as we have tried to keep our school community as safe as



possible. I would like to say thank you to all our families for your support during this very difficult time.

I would like to remind you that as we finish on Friday 18 December, students will finish school at 1.30pm and students will return on Tuesday 5 January 2021.

We have lots of festive activities to look forward to during the last week of term with Christmas lunch, parties, carols and creative activities to keep us busy.

I hope that you are all well at this time and thank you once again for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "H. Farnell". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'H'.

Helen Farnell  
Executive Head Teacher