



10th December 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

I know there has been a lot in the press about schools and closure on the 18th December. We have made the decision to stay open for our pupils. I feel that the short notice the government have given us does not support parents or the school. We have inset days planned in our calendar with specific training organised for them. We also have inset days that are planned to reduce the disruption caused by us being a local polling station, these days will be used to support the year 11 closer to their exams.

I have not taken this decision lightly and I am aware I will upset some of you whichever way we as a school decide to go. Please understand that this decision has been made with the best intentions, however, we respect your decision as a parent to decide what is best for your child on this day.

As we do every year, we will have a slightly shortened day on the 18th of December. **The day will consist of normal lessons period 1 and 2.** Students will be able to attend school in **non-uniform** on this day, **students will still need to wear their lanyard.** The non-uniform day is to raise money for our partner charity Broughton house. We ask pupils for a donation of £1 or whatever you can afford.

Key Stage 4

Year 10 and 11 will be able to get a breakfast/ brunch at morning break which will be extended by 15 mins. The Y10 and 11 will then return to their form for **25 mins** and will be dismissed from school site by their form tutor at **11.55am**.

Key Stage 3

Year 7/8 and 9 pupils will have a normal break and will go to form time from period 3 from **11.15** until **12.05pm** They will then have a grab and go lunch and will be dismissed from school site at **12.30pm**.

If you have a child in Key Stage 3 and want them to go home with older siblings, we can facilitate this. We just ask that you email us before Wednesday the 16th of December stating your child's name, year groups and the sibling they will be leaving with and their year group. We can only facilitate this for pupils in the same household.

office@theheys.school

These timings allow us to still have staggered starts and finishes and ensure the pupils have access to a meal/ hot snack. We are sad that we do not get to do the end of term assembly and celebrate in the way we normally would at this time of year. We also thank you for understanding and being so supportive.

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The Heys School

If your child becomes unwell within 48 hours of the school closure and tests positive for Covid please contact the school via the office email. We will support you during this time with track and trace. After the 48hr period has passed please inform us if your child must isolate. We will not however have to complete track and trace as positive cases are deemed to be infectious 48 hours before the onset of symptoms. If you have any questions, please contact us and we will do all we can to support you.

School re-opens on **Wednesday 6th January**, the usual time and dates of school closure and re-opening can be found on the school website. Please note that if we experience extreme weather which requires the school to close details will be on the school website and information will be sent via Parent Mail.

May I take this opportunity to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year. Thank you for your continued support this term especially to all of you who have supported the school food bank and hampers. With your help we have been able to support many families at this challenging time.

Yours sincerely,

Miss R Evans
Head Teacher

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