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Dear Parents and Carers,

End of term arrangements

Recently a letter was placed on the website, a text sent out to alert parents and a post placed on Facebook to inform that **the last day of term will now be Thursday 17th December and students will be dismissed at 2pm on this day.** Students will not be expected to attend the Academy on Friday 18th December, which is now an extra Inset day as advised by the DfE.

Alerting the Academy about positive COVID-19 cases

For the first 6 days after teaching ends (from 18th December up to and including 23rd December), if a student or staff member tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), having developed symptoms within 48 hours of the 17th December, the Academy has been asked to assist in identifying close contacts and advising self-isolation, as the individual may have become infectious. Please contact the academy with details of the positive test by emailing covid@omacademy.co.uk (this will be the only monitored email address throughout the Christmas period)

Please find enclosed a leaflet on the measures everyone can put in place to help stop the spread of the virus and to help protect our community.

Returning after the Christmas break

All students will be expected to return on **Tuesday 5th January**, between 8:00am and 8:20am via their usual entrance gate. To allow the teaching of a broad curriculum, students will use more subject specific classrooms. All classrooms will have an extra layer of sanitisation; students will continue to sanitise their hands between every lesson and encouraged to wash their hands regularly with soap and water; extra hand sanitiser stations will be positioned at main entrances into the building and in the two canteen areas and a fogging machine will be used daily in high traffic areas. As well as these measures, the students will continue to have separate year group breaks and lunches.

To help reduce the number of students on the move at any one time all lessons will have staggered finish times and students at the end of the academy day will have staggered exit times between 2:40pm and 2:45pm.

Being 'Ready to Learn'

On return to the Academy after the Christmas break, please ensure your child's uniform is compliant. Students can continue to wear an extra jumper or coat with all other compulsory items of uniform. Students must also wear a **face mask** unless exempt. Students can use any type of face mask as long as there is nothing inappropriate displayed.

Students need to bring to the Academy their stationery. A minimum of a black/blue pen, pencil and ruler is needed and this will be checked every morning.



It continues to be an incredibly challenging time for everyone, and I am sure that we all have the same hopes for a more positive, normal 2021. We hugely appreciate your ongoing support, understanding and cooperation, and it continues to mean a great deal to know we have your support. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Academy.

Please do keep safe and well, and I look forward to seeing all students on Tuesday 5th January.

Yours faithfully

Mrs C Robson
Principal