

10th December 2020

Dear staff, parents and students,

Ref: End of term closure brought forward to Thursday 17th December to maximise family, student and staff safety prior to Christmas

As many of you may now be aware, the Department for Education has strongly recommended that schools/academies should close early for Christmas, making Thursday 17th December the last teaching day before the Christmas holidays.

The reason for this is to allow enough time for any positive coronavirus cases to be identified and confirmed by a test, and for any contacts in schools/academies to be traced and informed, before we are released from tier restrictions and form Christmas bubbles with our families.

This aligns with Fairfax Multi-Academy Trust's (FMAT) main priority - to keep our students, families and staff as safe as possible.

Following the Government guidance, we are therefore writing to inform you that all of FMAT's academies will now close at the end of Thursday 17th December 2020 and will not be open to any students on Friday 18th December 2020.

Each academy will reopen as normal for students on Tuesday, 5th January 2021. Monday, 4th January is a calendared Trust training day for teachers; students do not attend on this day.

We are truly sorry that we are notifying you of this change very late in the term. We are aware that it may cause you some difficulty; however, as you will appreciate, schools/academies were only informed of this directive on Tuesday 8th December.

We do however need you to continue to do your bit to keep our community safe in the run up to Christmas by continuing to alert the academy of positive Covid-19 cases.

What do you need to do?

The Government has asked schools to play their part in continuing contact tracing if students or staff test positive within six days of the academy closing.

This means that we do still ask all parents or staff to contact the academy if a student or staff member tests positive for Coronavirus and has developed symptoms within 48 hours of being in the academy, using the contact details below.

Email: ENQUIRY@ERDINGTON.FMAT.CO.UK

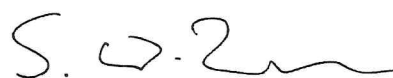
Telephone: 0121 373 1080

By continuing to work together to contract trace, as outlined above, we can keep your child's bubble informed and all our families protected.

With very best wishes,



Simon Mallett
Head of Erdington Academy



Simon Jones
CEO