



# GREAT HOLLANDS

## PRIMARY SCHOOL

Headteacher: Richard Ferris  
BA(Ed) Hons, NPQH

Wordsworth, Bracknell  
Berkshire, RG12 8YR  
01344 424 911  
ghpsoffice@maidenerleghtrust.org  
www.greathollandsprimary.co.uk  
@MEGreatHollands

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### End of Term Notice

Dear Parents and Carers

#### **School Closure on Friday 18 December 2020**

As you will no doubt be aware, on Tuesday, the government made an announcement advising schools to close at the end of the day on Thursday 17 December.

Our number one priority throughout the term has been to keep our school community as safe as possible and we have been fortunate in remaining open throughout the Autumn term, again thank you for helping to keep us COVID safe.

Yesterday, Bracknell Forest announced that most of its schools will be closed on Friday 18 December.

My aim as always is to remain open for as long as possible, however having reviewed the situation and following the government's advice, I have taken the decision to close the school on Friday 18 December. I believe this the best option for our pupils and their families.

**The last day of term will be Thursday 17 December and collection times remain as normal on that day.**

Part of the government advice to close a day early is to ensure that your child does not receive a notice to self-isolate late on Christmas Eve, which for many families would be too late to avoid contact with elderly relatives. This is something as a school community we wish to avoid.

I appreciate that this news has come very late and can only apologise for this. We are of course now used to very late announcements from the government regarding schools, but it makes planning ahead very difficult for all of us.

#### **Notice for all parents:**

If a child or staff member develops symptoms **before Sunday 20 December** and then **tests positive** the school will contact those who have been identified as a close contact. This contact may take up to 6 days due to the time taken for tests to be taken and results received. Please ensure that we have the correct email address for you and that you check this email regularly up to and including Wednesday 23 December 2020.

**Any child identified as a close contact needs to self-isolate for 10 days. This means that they must not join any Christmas bubble while they are in self-isolation in order to protect their family and friends.**

## **Information if your child tests positive for COVID-19**

Please note the following key information:

If your child develops symptoms **before Sunday 20 December** and then **tests positive please contact the school**: [GHPSoffice@maidenerleghtrust.org](mailto:GHPSoffice@maidenerleghtrust.org) with the subject heading COVID POSITIVE so that we can support Test and Trace. This email will be monitored for this purpose only once every 24hrs. Please provide the following:

Child's full name:

Child's class:

Child's DOB:

Child's address:

Date symptoms started:

Symptoms:

Test date:

Contact email address of parent / carer:

If **your child** develops symptoms on Sunday 20 December or later, and later tests positive, **DO NOT** contact the school, instead you must follow the contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace (Coronavirus (COVID-19) - NHS ([www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk))).

## **The local situation**

For your information, this is what the local infection rates look like, please keep safe this Christmas:

The figures are the number of infections per 100,000 people in the seven days up to and including 10 December (previous week's figures in brackets). For reference, the infection rate for England on the same day was 157.8 (up from 155.7).

- Bracknell Forest 195.0 (up from 159.1) ↑
- Reading 266.0 (up from 161.) ↑
- Wokingham 243.0 (up from 142.0) ↑

## **Wishing you a Happy Christmas**

Thank you again for your ongoing support and patience over this term. I hope that we can all enjoy the festive period as best as possible within the current circumstances. Keep safe and I look forward to our continued success in the new year.

Wishing you all a very merry Christmas.

Yours sincerely



**Richard Ferris**  
**Headteacher**