

Tuesday 15th December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Yesterday I wrote to you to explain that LBI had strongly advised all Islington schools to move to remote learning from Wednesday 16th December to the end of the autumn term and for the first week of the Spring term.

Since that letter – and you may be aware from news reports yesterday evening and earlier today - the Government have over ruled that decision.

This afternoon all Islington head teachers received a letter directly from the Education Minister, Nick Gibb, asking for all schools to remain open for all pupils.

The school will be open to all pupils on Wednesday 16th (including breakfast and after school club) and Thursday 17th December.

The school will be open to all children for the start of the Spring 2021 term on the 5th January.

I appreciate your patience and understanding in this matter. I understand how unsettling and difficult the change of plans may be, especially at the end of a challenging term with so many new routines to get used to.

Class teachers have spoken to the children – again – and explained the change. Throughout this extraordinary time the children have been a brilliant model of flexibility and understanding. I am confident that they will manage this quick turn-about in the same spirit.

Even though the decision has been overturned, the fact that Islington wanted to take this course of action should remind us all of the need to take personal responsibility amidst rising infection rates in the locality. Please remember to stick to the new tier 3 rules that come into effect at midnight tonight and encourage your children to socially distance where possible.

Many local schools have now closed until the end of term due to a lack of available staff and to limit the chances of transmitting the virus. We have been incredibly fortunate to have enjoyed largely uninterrupted face to face teaching this term and much of this will have been down to the considered behaviour of all within our school community- children,

parents and staff. Thank you for all of your efforts with regards to this and I ask that you continue to persist with this in the coming days and weeks.

I look forward to welcoming the children back to school tomorrow morning for an enjoyable end to the longest term I can ever remember.

Keep well and stay safe.

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Terri Higgins".

Terri Higgins
Head Teacher