



19th June 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am writing to you with an update regarding the end of term and changes to when we will now break up for summer holidays. Originally our last day for children to attend school was due to be Tuesday 21st July, and we had one non-pupil day booked for staff on Wednesday 22nd July. However, following an extraordinary meeting held this week with Directors, it has been agreed that the last day for children to attend school will be on Friday 17th July, this includes keyworker provision.

After much deliberation and discussion, we have made this decision as a Multi Academy Trust. We are in agreement that it would be beneficial to begin preparations for September. Children have missed huge chunks of learning; these will need to be addressed when they return, meaning we need time for staff to identify gaps and pass this information onto new teachers. We also need time to review our curriculum maps and see where we can merge concepts allowing us time to revisit and teach knowledge that would have been covered, had we not been in lockdown. Furthermore, we also would like time to work in teams; something we have not been able to do due to rotas and timetable variations, to cover some training that we feel will support children and their families when we return, this includes Trauma Perceptive Practice and Bereavement training.

Some parents/carers may feel disappointed in this decision and I am sorry for that, but Directors and school leaders feel that these additional 2 days would allow staff time to reflect, review and forward plan for September. I would also like to remind you that originally 1st June was due to be a non-pupil day, where some of this training would have taken place, instead we decided to open to returning children in Preschool, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6.

We do not know what school will look like in September but we want to be proactive and ensure that we feel ready to support our children when they return; supporting their mental wellbeing as well as their educational development. Thank you for your continued understanding and support throughout this whole experience.

Kind regards

Catherine Stalham
Headteacher

