

18th December 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

I wanted to write to thank you all for your support all the way through the Autumn term. It has been the most difficult of circumstances, but I think we have all played our part in securing the very best possible education for our students, your children. The students themselves have been fantastic in following the guidelines to try and keep each other safe, and I thank them for that.

The school term ends today, Friday 18th December, but our work does not. We have been asked by the government to continue contact-tracing procedures in school up to and including Thursday 24th December. Therefore, we need you to please let us know of any Limehurst students who have a confirmed positive case of COVID-19. Please email a copy of the test result to office@limehurst.org.uk. This means that we may also need to contact you in that period if we think your child may have had a close contact with somebody who has tested positive; we will do this by telephone where necessary.

I wrote to you all earlier in the term about the possibility of Limehurst Academy joining the East Midlands Education Trust (EMET). Well, that possibility has now become a reality, and I am delighted that we will be joining EMET on 1st January 2021. Doing so will give us security, and more opportunities for all associated with the school. I must stress, though, that nothing will change for you or your child after Christmas!

It is important for everybody to feel safe during the holidays. Attached to this email is a booklet which provides contact details of some organisations which may be able to offer support to you and your family if needed over the Christmas break. Our safeguarding email address safeguarding@limehurst.org.uk will be checked regularly; please do contact us if you need any support.

We have a new Assistant Headteacher starting with us after Christmas, Mr S Smith. He currently works at a school in the south of England, and we are very much looking forward to him joining us.

Late last night (Thursday) the government decided to publish start-of-term arrangements for secondary schools. I find the contempt that you as parents, and we as school leaders, are being treated with is disgraceful. However, we will try to respond as best we can, just as we always do. The net consequence is that your child will not resume face-to-face learning in school until Monday 11th January unless your child is in Year 11, or considered as vulnerable, or you (the parents) are both critical workers and cannot make arrangements to look after your child from home. We will write separately with further details.

I wish you all a peaceful and healthy holiday period.

Yours sincerely



J Mellor
Headteacher