

Federation of Grevelthorpe and Fountains
C of E Primary Schools



Believe Learn Flourish
With
Faith Hope Love

Headteacher: Pam Acheson



Dear Parents/Carers,

Following the Government announcement yesterday, I am writing to confirm that we **will** be open on Friday 18th December.

The school day will operate as normal as we felt that it was too late to make any last-minute changes as we appreciate that this would have impacted on your childcare arrangements.

The school day will finish at 2:20pm for Class 1 and 3 children and 2:30pm for Class 2 and Class 4. Parents can pick up all siblings together and this should be the time which is the earliest pick-up.

Public Health England has agreed a 6-day window after the final day of teaching in which schools have been asked to remain contactable so they can assist with contact tracing where necessary. This will allow enough time for positive coronavirus (COVID-19) cases to be identified and confirmed by a test and for relevant contacts in the education setting to be traced. We are clear that beyond 6 days after the final day of teaching, school and further education staff are not asked to play a role in any contact tracing. It is also likely that the need to support the tracing process will reduce dramatically over the course of the 6 days as the majority of cases should be identified earlier in the week.

If someone in our school community tests positive for coronavirus, those who were in close contact with them 48 hours before the symptoms emerged will need to self-isolate.

In practice, this means that when we finish on Friday 18th December, pupils or staff who develop symptoms up to the Sunday could have had close contact with others in schools within those 48 hours.

It is important to note that the DfE and PHE have said that where a pupil or staff member develops symptoms after the 48 hours, which in our case will be close of day

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on Sunday 20th December, they do not need to contact the school and can use the normal national track and trace system.

Procedure for contacting school in the event that your child develops symptoms:

- If your child develops symptoms on Friday evening, Saturday 19th or Sunday 20th then you need to inform Mrs Acheson by emailing headteacher@gfschools.co.uk. Can you please put the following heading in the subject of the email: URGENT: Covid symptoms.
- If your child or anyone in your family develops symptoms after the 48 hour period then (from Monday 21st) you will need to ensure you get tested and use the normal national track and trace system.

Procedure for contacting parents in the event that a positive case has been confirmed:

- Parents will be informed by email if there is a confirmed positive case which means that your child has been in close contact and therefore needs to isolate. Any advice from PHE will be sent to the first contact on our emailing system. This will also be followed up by a phone call from Mrs Acheson to ensure that the message has been received.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and hope that we all remain in good health over the festive period.

Kind regards,

Mrs P Acheson
Executive Head Teacher