



9 December 2020

Dear Parent or Carer

You may be aware from the press this morning that the DfE are allowing schools to close a day early for Christmas so teachers can stop being involved with track and trace from the 23rd December.

I can confirm that the last day of term for students at Bower Park will now be Thursday 17th December. We will finish at the normal time. Our first day back in the Spring term will be Tuesday 5th January as planned.

Up to 23rd December, if there is a positive case of COVID, please report this via the special email address bpacovidalert@elatschools.co.uk so that a member of staff can contact you and offer advice on track and trace.

With regards to the last week of term, the Regional Schools Commissioner has made it quite clear to schools that, in response to a letter from the Council regarding attendance and quarantining, parents/carers should continue to send their children to school right up until the end of term. In reference to quarantining, the Schools Commissioner said *"I would not expect Head Teachers to authorise this type of absence in the final week of term"*.

Please be reminded of the following advice from Public Health England:-

Advice from Public Health England on what to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID 19

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, they must not come to school and should remain at home for at least **10 days** from the date when their symptoms appeared. Anyone with symptoms will be eligible for testing and this can be arranged via [Get a free NHS test to check if you have coronavirus - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/get-a-free-nhs-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus).

All other household members who remain well, must stay at home and not leave the house for 14 days. This includes anyone in your 'Support Bubble'.

Thank you for your continued co-operation at this time, and I wish you a peaceful Christmas break and New Year!

Yours faithfully

S Deen
Principal