

2nd January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am sorry to be having to write to you once again during the holidays, but recent developments have made it necessary to make a change to our arrangements for the start of term.

You may be aware that some teaching unions and other professional bodies are putting the government under significant pressure to delay the start of term for all primary schools, not just those in the London area, in light of the current rates of transmission/infection and the concern around the new strain of the virus.

Although it is difficult to make judgements around these issues with any degree of certainty, it is entirely possible that schools could be asked to close as early as next week and, if this were to be the case, significant planning and preparation will be required for delivering remote learning, whilst also providing school places for vulnerable and key worker pupils.

In light of all of this, all schools in the Red Kite Learning Trust were instructed on Saturday evening to make **Monday 4th January a training** day in order to begin to make these preparations and to respond to whatever decision is made by the government. **This means that school will not be open on Monday 4th January for any pupils.** We will of course let you know as soon as possible about arrangements for the rest of the week; this will depend, to a large extent, on the government's response to ongoing events. **Please assume that school will be open as normal on Tuesday 5th January unless you hear from me to the contrary.**

I appreciate that this is extremely short notice and that this will undoubtedly cause difficulties for many of you but, unfortunately, such unexpected developments are in the nature of the times we are living through. For my part, I desperately want us to remain open for all of our pupils if it is safe to do so but we all need to wait for the outcome of ongoing developments.

With kind regards and best wishes for the New Year,

Tim Broad

