9th December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We were informed late yesterday afternoon by the DFE that, for all schools in England, the Autumn term can end a day earlier with schools closing at the end of Thursday 17th December.

This was decided to allow more time between the closure of schools and Christmas Eve for a 6 day window where we 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 school to be traced.

The Rose Learning Trust has therefore decided that all of its schools will be closing a day early on Thursday 17th December at your child's usual pickup time.  We understand that this may cause some disruption and apologise for the short notice that this gives you to make arrangements.  We would have preferred to have planned this well in advance if we had known it was an option.  However we feel that the extra day for test and trace to work the full six days before household bubbles can mix on the 23rd December will help to minimise potential disruption for you over the holiday and school when we return in January.

Since March we have always tried to make the best decisions based on health and safety advice and what is best for families.  This has been a difficult decision to make because it is such short notice but think it is the best one for pupils, community and staff.

Thank you once again for your continued support.

Kind regards

Mr J Bullock

Head teacher