



## Brine Multi Academy Trust

c/o Brine Leas School  
Audlem Road  
Nantwich  
Cheshire  
CW5 7DY  
Tel: 01270 625663  
Email: [clerk@brinemat.co.uk](mailto:clerk@brinemat.co.uk)

**Date:** 9<sup>th</sup> December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

As you may know, yesterday, the DfE made an unexpected announcement with advice that schools should review their plans for Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020.

They have also asked schools to make parents aware of the following:-

*“Public Health England has agreed a 6-day window after the final day of teaching in which schools and further education providers are asked to remain contactable so they can assist with contact tracing where necessary.”*

*“We recommend all schools ensure staff, parents and carers are aware of the following information and relevant arrangements regarding positive cases in the holidays:-*

- Where a pupil or staff member tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), having developed symptoms more than 48 hours since being in school, the school should not be contacted. Parents and carers should follow contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace.*
- For the first 6 days after teaching ends, if a pupil or staff member tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), having developed symptoms within 48 hours of being in school, the school is asked to assist in identifying close contacts and advising self-isolation, as the individual may have been infectious whilst in school.*
- School staff are not asked to remain on-call or conduct any contact tracing more than 6 days after the final day of teaching. Where a schools last teaching day is on Thursday 17 December, there should be no pupil contact tracing asks beyond Wednesday 23 December.”*

To facilitate this, the Department for Education gave flexibility to schools, Trusts and Local Authorities, to use 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020 as a non-teaching day, even if this was not already planned. The stipulation being that the teaching day would have to be made up somewhere else in the year.

After much thought and consideration, the Trust’s Directors and Governors of Brine Leas have decided that the school will close on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2020 and work will be set for students to undertake remotely on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020. It is expected that the work set will be completed and ready for the return to school on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January.

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### Brine MAT Members

Mrs C Farrall  
Mr E Forshaw  
Mrs J Furber  
Mr A Robinson

### Brine MAT Directors

Mr A Cliffe  
Mr A Coxhill  
Mrs J Disney  
Mrs J Furber  
Mr B Radford  
Mr A Robinson

### Brine MAT Member Schools

Brine Leas School

It is unfortunate that we have been given such short notice and we apologise for any inconvenience this may cause you.

Although INSET Days have already been set for the rest of the year, the school's Governors have reviewed the calendar in order to replace the teaching time. As such, the INSET Day scheduled for Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2021 will become a normal teaching day and the school calendar and website will be updated to reflect this.

May we take this opportunity to wish you all a restful and healthy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Yours faithfully



Janet Furber  
Chair of Directors



Su Turner  
Chair of Governors