Our ref: LQ/AC/DMR20

18th December 2020

**To all Parent/Carers**

Dear Parent/Carer,

It has been a monumental achievement to deliver education to our pupils this term, given both the local and national picture since returning in September. Like all schools, we have had some disruption including the closure of the school for two days in November and some bubble closures, in line with national guidance, but a big team effort at High Well has allowed pupils to return to the standard of education they deserve, albeit with some restrictions.

As always, we thank you for your continued support of High Well School and the flexibility you have shown when classes have had to close and in supporting self-isolation. We are committed to ensuring that our staff, pupils and their families are as safe as possible but at the same time will strive to still provide the very best experiences for all of our pupils in the coming Spring Term and aim to maintain a sense of normality for pupils in an ever changing climate.

A really encouraging thing to pass on is that, in spite of the March lockdown and subsequent disruptions, the majority of pupils continue to make academic and social and emotional progress and haven’t let this difficult situation become a barrier to their education. The pupils deserve huge credit for this.

School returns for all pupils on Monday 4th January 2020, and we will update you in the New Year on the Government’s plans to implement Covid-19 testing in secondary schools. Please find enclosed important information and advice for parents from Public Health England.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy and safe New Year from all the staff team at High Well.

Yours faithfully,



Louise Quinn

**Headteacher**

**Coronavirus – End of term advice for parents from Public Health England**

The DFE and Public Health England have 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. Where a pupil 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 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 Friday 18th December, there should be no pupil contact tracing asks beyond Thursday 24th December. Please do not contact school by telephone as there will be no staff to take your call, please notify us via email [admin@highwell.org.uk](mailto:admin@highwell.org.uk).

If your child develops symptoms during the second week of the holidays they have to isolate for 10 days, please do not send your child to school on the 4th January if the isolation period runs into the first week of school term. Thank you.