



24th November 2021

Update from the CEO

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope that this letter finds you and your family safe and well? I am writing to advise you that Public Health Doncaster have recently updated their guidance to schools. We have been informed that the number of cases in Doncaster communities continue to cause concern and although there has been a reduction in the number of positive cases overall, many schools have seen a rise in cases.

There is an increasing number of outbreaks in schools affecting both pupils and staff which in some schools has presented staffing issues due to absence. The number of Doncaster residents being treated in hospital for COVID remains persistently high.

Due to this latest guidance, schools have been asked to be mindful of the need to balance the overall wellbeing of children and also how they can reduce opportunities for transmission of the virus within school settings when planning Christmas activities and events.

As you are aware large gatherings indoors for events such as concerts will increase the transmission risks, due to close proximity in enclosed spaces for an extended period of time, therefore all academies have risk assessed all Christmas activities and events to reduce the risk of transmission.

Taking this information into account, we have taken the decision to hold our Christmas concerts as a virtual event. I know you may be disappointed with this decision but I wanted to reassure you that this will still be an exciting event for our pupils whilst also ensuring that our communities remain as safe as possible with the up and coming Christmas holiday period looming: We don't want you all to be in isolation for this very special time! I do hope that you understand this.

Some academies will have other planned events such as visits, which will be risk assessed to ensure that the risk of transmission is kept to the minimum.



Exceed Learning Partnership

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Edlington Lane
Doncaster
South Yorkshire DN12 1PL

T 01709 805175

F 01709 869936

E admin@exceedlearningpartnership.com

www.exceedlearningpartnership.co.uk

I have asked academies to provide you with a brief overview of their Christmas events. Further details will follow via the teachers at your academy.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to once again thank parents and carers for your continued support during this time; I hope that you will understand that the decision we have taken is to ensure that we minimise the risk to our families, friends, colleagues and our communities.

Yours sincerely

B.A. Nixon

Beryce Nixon
CEO
National Leader of Education

