



14 December 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

## Confirmation of school/UTC opening week beginning 14th December 2020

I am writing to you to confirm that all our schools in the Brighter Futures Learning Partnership Trust will remain open Friday 18th December. You may be aware that schools have been allowed to have an additional INSET day on the last day of term to allow staff to get a "proper break" over Christmas. This is because Headteachers and School leaders will have to continue working over the holidays to oversee the track and trace process in their schools.

As a Trust we have decided not to close our schools/UTC early on Friday. Our Headteachers feel that our children and young people have already missed too much education and taking the additional day would further compromise our pupils'/students' progress. We hope you agree that given the amount of education missed due to the current pandemic, we would not wish to further disadvantage our children/young people. We really hope that you will support us by ensuring your child attends school as usual.

The Department for Education has also made clear that although schools can take an additional day on Friday 18th December, schools will be obliged to have one less INSET day the following year. As school leaders, we really value our INSET days and plan for them a year in advance. Taking a day out from an already busy INSET programme would create further disruption to the system the following year. We are hoping that 2021 will provide more consistency and continuity for everyone.

If you have any questions, please may I ask you to direct them to the school/UTC which your child attends. It has been a tremendously difficult year for everyone, and I really hope that you and your family have a very happy, healthy and peaceful Christmas.

With very best wishes,

**Helen Redford-Hernandez** 

**CEO Brighter Futures Learning Partnership Trust** 

H. Roda - Henordez









