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**THE HART  
SCHOOL**  
*Creative  
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Ref: CKE/CBR/ESC

18 December 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

### **Emergency School Closure**

Regrettably, we have had to make the very difficult decision today to close the school to all students on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> and Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December, following unprecedented student absence rates in the school, due to illness.

During the course of this week in particular student absence rates have continued to increase. Together with staff, up to 200 individuals have contracted sickness and flu-like symptoms. There have also been an increasing number of students who have been sent home during the school day for the same reasons.

Despite every attempt to remain open, and having taken advice from Public Health England, the Local Authority, the Trust and the school's Academy Council, it is necessary to complete a Deep Clean of the school, to reduce further spread of infection.

This decision has been taken to protect students in the school from risk of further infection or spread.

We fully understand the implications that this decision may have in respect of organising childcare, but hope that you will understand the situation the school finds itself in.

Yours faithfully,

Mr Chris Keen  
Principal