



Dear Parent/ Carer

RE: Partial closure for Year Nine students ONLY

Unfortunately, due to low staffing capacity because of the COVID-19 pandemic we have had to take the decision to close the academy for Year 9 students ONLY for this week provisionally. We will review this decision on Wednesday.

I have not taken this decision lightly and would only do so when no other circumstances would permit the safe opening of the school for all students. As you know we operate a zoned model and this requires staffing seven zones for pastoral desks, duties and much more. We have done this in order to place safety at the heart of our operations; we will not compromise on this.

Year 9 students only are to remain at home from Monday 9th November to Friday 13th November unless there is academy communication otherwise.

Please be advised that if we need to continue with a partial closure beyond this week, we would look to rota the closure by year group to avoid a prolonged absence from school for any student. It is absolutely imperative that all parents and carers follow our communications to be informed of any changes to year group rotations. Please check our messages, website, Facebook and Twitter on, at least, a daily basis for updates.

I appreciate that this decision may come late on a Sunday evening. Rest assured, we review our capacity daily but a staffing update today meant that this is the only responsible and safe decision that we could make. We will not compromise on the safe operating procedures of our seven zones.

Thank you again for all your support with dealing with these extraordinary circumstances.

Yours sincerely,

Adrian Price

Principal