



6<sup>th</sup> April 2022

Dear Parents/Carers of Year 10 students

**Re: Short-term closure plan for Year 10 students on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2022**

I am sure you are aware that, as the Spring term draws to a close, schools nationally are seeing a significant rise in the number of confirmed cases of coronavirus amongst students and staff. Whilst we all have mechanisms in place to support remote learning for students recovering from coronavirus; we are in a much more difficult position when it comes to re-allocating staff to cover lessons for colleagues who are recovering in either the short or longer term. With this in mind, I am writing to you to give you prior warning of our intention to move to a short-term closure plan, **for Year 10 students**, in order to maximise available staffing on site.

Subject staff will use our FROG platform to set remote work for the Year 10 classes affected.

We are aware that some Year 10 students have been invited to the school production rehearsal and to the 'pre-paid' skateboarding club after school on Friday and that other Year 10 students have kindly agreed to be involved in PE moderation and the Church services at St George's on Friday. We are very grateful to them for their support and they will be informed separately about when they are needed during the day.

Please rest assured that we do employ specialist cover staff, to oversee classes in the event of staff absence, and we fully utilise supply teaching agencies in order to enlist specialist replacements. Unfortunately, as I type this letter, we have fully allocated our available cover staff and we are unable to secure supply agency colleagues for Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2022.

**Why Year 10?**

The decision to close the school to Year 10 has been taken for the following reasons:

- Years 8 and 9 have already spent one day remote-learning at the end of the Autumn term.
- Year 11 students will soon be going on GCSE study leave and need to be in lessons on Friday 8/4 discussing revision activities to be undertaken over the Easter holiday.
- Year 7 students are least able to work independently at home without impacting on working families. (Please note, that in the interests of equitable impact, Year 7 will be the next Year group to work from home if necessary.)

Finally, I would like to thank you for all your support throughout the year. Whilst we have not operated under completely 'normal' circumstances; we have been able to smoothly progress through the term with minimal disruption and a great deal of enjoyment in working with such fabulous young people.

On behalf of all of our staff, I would like to wish you and you families a very 'Happy Easter'.

Yours faithfully

**Chris Keating,**  
**Headteacher**