

21<sup>st</sup> March 2022

Dear parents/carers,

**Re: Update on partial closure**

Further to my recent communications, we have spent time this morning looking at the staffing situation. Unfortunately, we do not feel that we will be in a position to bring any additional year groups back into school tomorrow. **Therefore, students in years 7 to 10 should remain at home on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2022.** Year 11 students should come into school as usual.

We continue to have a number of staff who are still returning positive tests, even though they have reached their 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> day of self-isolation. This means that they are required to stay at home. Whilst a few staff have returned to us today, other staff returned positive tests over the weekend. Combined with the ongoing unavailability of agency cover staff, we do not feel that there is any other alternative. Clearly, we will bring students back, either by year group or fully as soon as possible. I'm sure you will understand why we are prioritising Year 11s as they build towards their summer exams.

Students in years 7 to 10 will have work set for them via Class Charts. Similar to today, where staff are well enough and able to, we will offer live provision via Teams. Please ask your child to check Class Charts in the first instance and keep an eye out for Teams invites too.

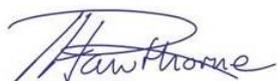
On Wednesday, a few teaching staff may return, assuming that they test negative both tomorrow and Wednesday morning. However, there are no guarantees that this will happen, and it is also possible that other staff may also be unwell and that we may need to continue with a blended provision throughout this week. We will update you on a daily basis.

Therefore, please keep a continual eye on school communications. We will use Weduc in the main, with Class Charts announcements, the school website and Twitter as a backup.

I am in no doubt that we are not alone in facing the current unprecedented challenges but also acutely aware that these announcements and their short notice is inconvenient and disruptive to say the least. Thank you for your continued support whilst we deal with the situation.

If you have any queries, then please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Yours sincerely



**Mr R Hawthorne**  
Head of School