

16<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Dear Year 9 Parents & Carers

### Re: School Closure for Years 9 Students

I write to update you on the impact of the COVID-19 virus within the academy and our plans to address this. A number of colleagues are unable to attend school currently. Primarily because a large number of staff have been contacted via Track & Trace and advised to self-isolate. Either themselves directly, their partners or own children are unable to leave home and this has a significant bearing on the safe management of our school. **As such, I have taken the decision to close the school to Year 9. Year 9 students will, after this afternoon, not return to school until Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> of November.**

Please note this decision has not been taken lightly, but the safety of staff and students is of paramount importance. Moreover, our staff and students are incredibly well-prepared for online learning. All year 9 students without a device at home have been offered a loaned one by the academy. Students will receive their full timetable via Microsoft Teams from Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> November at 8:30am.

**Please note that we are only asking your child to learn from home because we do not currently have enough staff to have them at the Academy. They are not being asked to self-isolate.**

The school remains open to students in some other year groups, **including Year 9 students who attend either The Bridge or Gateway provision**, they must all attend school as normal.

We are continuing to monitor the situation and are working closely with Public Health England.

If you have any questions or queries, please send these via our MCAS app. If you do not yet have access to the MCAS app, and you have a question, you can call the Academy, but please be aware that our phone lines may be busy.

I would please ask that you continue to support the academy and work together through this uncertain time. Please rest assured that we will keep you updated on the current situation.

Warm regards



Miss D Gobbi  
Principal

Principal - Miss D Gobbi

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