



23<sup>rd</sup> March 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **Partial School Closure on Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> March**

Anyone who believed that COVID had gone away should have been in our offices early in the last few mornings. They would have seen that the rising level of staff absence - almost entirely due to COVID - and the high local demand for supply teachers had left our normal arrangements on the thinnest of thin ice.

This situation will, if anything, deteriorate further over the next few days. With 16 teaching staff known to be away tomorrow, Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March, and few supply staff available, I have no choice but to reduce the number of students on site.

I am therefore asking all members of Year 10 to remain at home **on Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> March**. Where teachers are available to set work, that will be done; but in the circumstances this is likely to be patchy.

Additionally, Year 12 will not have their normal lessons tomorrow. They should attend as normal, but they will find work left in their classrooms rather than a teacher to deliver it.

Years 8, 9, 11 and 13 should attend as normal and will follow their usual programmes.

I very much regret having to take this step. It is a situation we have tried to avoid, but absences among the staff have reached a level which make the decision on avoidable.

Yours sincerely,

Natalie Waters