



23 March 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

Today we have 17 teaching staff off, 5 pastoral and a number of support staff, including LSAs. This is making it exceptionally challenging to run the school in the normal way and our ability to respond to issues is currently greatly reduced.

We have had 7 supply staff all week at a cost of £220 per day. We have also used a lot of our staff for cover and I know teams are feeling the pressure at a very busy and challenging time of year. Staff have gone above and beyond this week to ensure lessons run and your child's education is not impacted but this position isn't sustainable. It is also compounded by the same occurring in other schools which means we are really struggling to get supply staff into school and they have let us down several times this week at the last minute.

We have reviewed any training events/visits that can be cancelled to create capacity and SLT will also continue to fill gaps including cover.

We intend to review the position on Friday but should we need to, we will collapse Year 9 and revert to remote learning. We will let parents know as a matter of urgency should this be the case so that you can be prepared. This clearly is the very last option for us but whilst some elements are known it really is a dynamic situation, with return dates unknown and new cases not predictable. I will also be contacting the LA and the Local Health Protection Team to discuss what additional actions may be required on our campus.

I sincerely hope the picture improves but please be mindful of these challenges when contacting the school as we do have a number of key staff absent.

Yours sincerely

W Teece  
Headteacher