



# BROOKVALE GROBY LEARNING CAMPUS

Valuing Everyone, Achieving Excellence

Will Teece, Headteacher

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Dear Parent/Carer,

Following our earlier communication this week, we have been forced to make the difficult decision to collapse Year 9 next week and provide remote education for this cohort of students. In the short term this will definitely be in place for Monday and Tuesday and we will ask students to return as soon as it is safe to do so. We will continue to review the situation closely and keep parents and carers well informed. The current guidance dictates that staff who have tested positive isolate for the 10 days unless a negative LFT is seen on day 5 and 6, this is making it exceptionally difficult to plan when staff might return.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-people-with-covid-19-and-their-contacts/covid-19-people-with-covid-19-and-their-contacts>

Going into the weekend we have 34 staff absent across all areas of the campus and our pastoral team has been particularly hard hit with only one Head of Year left. These staff are critical for the safe supervision of students at break, lunch and the start and ends of the day. We have used support staff this week at breaks and lunch but this isn't sustainable in the long term. It has also proven very challenging to source agency staff at short notice as many other schools are facing similar challenges. We also have no way of predicting if there may be additional absences next week.

The decision to close Year 9 is being driven by the inability to safely run the campus at this time, we are therefore not in a position as in previous lockdowns to accommodate key worker children.

We have made ready a number of devices that will be available to students at the end of the day should they need them to access remote learning within the Google classroom. Staff that would typically be teaching Yr 9 will be deployed to cover other lessons and carry out additional duties, so it is unlikely that lessons will have a live element unless these staff are not used in this way.

I am hoping our staffing challenges will improve and we can welcome your children back as soon as possible and apologise for any inconvenience this causes you and your family. I am acutely aware of how challenging this will be for you too.

Yours sincerely

W Teece  
Headteacher