

12th November 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

I am writing to inform you of our decision to close the school for students in Year 9 and Year 10 for a period of one week effective from Monday 16th November 2020. The planned return date for students is Monday 23rd November 2020.

The decision has been well considered, taking into account guidance from Public Health England and the Local Authority, together with the approval of the Governing Body. Primarily, this decision is on the grounds of health and safety due to significantly reduced staffing levels not only due to the impact of Covid-19 but other illnesses and absences.

Our school Coronavirus Contingency Policy together with our Remote Learning Policy will come into immediate effect for these students (and these policies can be found on the school website for your perusal). Students will be able to follow the curriculum in their subject areas through Google Classroom by 8.00am each morning and this will confirm whether their normal timetabled lesson will be a virtual one with a member of the teaching staff or whether work will have been set ready for them to access via the website. Students must continue to submit their completed work to their teachers via their school email account.

For those students who are Keyworker Students (ie emergency services, NHS or school based staff) or those with an Educational Health Care Plan, we would request parents/carers contact Ms K Glover, SENDCO on kglover@speters.org.uk to confirm whether their child will need to come to school as usual, as we will of course be able to assist with their attendance once again.

For any student who is in receipt of Free School Meals, we will again provide an online link for a supermarket voucher of your choice to the value of £15.00 in order to meet our obligation in providing food whilst your child is not in school.

We will continue to monitor this situation carefully and should there be a change to this arrangements then we will let you know as soon as possible.

I recognise the disruption that this decision may cause to you, however please rest assured that it has not been taken lightly and ensures that we continue to put the safety and well-being of all members of our school community first.

Thank you all for your continued support and understanding in these very challenging and difficult times.

Yours sincerely

Mr J Arnold

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