



17th January 2022

Year group closure Tuesday 18th and Wednesday 19th January 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

I write to inform you that, unfortunately, as a result of illness due to Covid-19 and the continued widespread issue with recruiting supply teachers, we have high levels of staff absence that we are unable to cover. **We have therefore taken the decision to close to Year 9 and Year 10 students on Tuesday 18th January and Wednesday 19th January. School will remain open for all other year groups.**

Students in both Years 9 & 10 should study at home for these two days, logging in to Microsoft Teams on a device and looking in their subject Teams for work that will be provided by period 1 tomorrow. This work will be saved in the 'Files' section of the Team. In addition, students should use GCSE Pod ([GCSE Learning and Revision | GCSEPod](#)), Seneca Learning ([Free Homework & Revision for A Level, GCSE, KS3 & KS2 \(senecalearning.com\)](#)) and MathsWatch ([MathsWatch](#)) to complete revision and practice questions relating to the subjects they study, as appropriate.

Please emphasise to your child that the time they normally spend in school should be used productively and they should be doing around 5 hours of study per day. Teachers will expect students to have completed the work provided and will be discussing this on their return. We are not implementing live Teams lessons on this occasion, as several staff are currently ill.

Students should note that their Teams login is the same as their school email account login (username and password). If they have any trouble recalling this or logging in, they/you need to contact help@harrogatehighschool.co.uk as soon as possible. If your child needs support with their MathsWatch or other logins, please contact school on admin@harrogatehighschool.co.uk or call the school directly.

Please note that Teams can be accessed on a smartphone/tablet as well as a computer and all students who last year expressed that they did not have a device were lent a laptop/Chromebook and will still have this at home. If your child does not have a device via which to access Teams, please contact school so we can support with lending a device if possible.



If your child cannot work from home and you are a critical worker, please let us know today so we can assess numbers that request to attend. You may be asked to provide written evidence from your employer showing that you are a critical worker. A full and current list of critical workers can be found on the government website: [Children of critical workers and vulnerable children who can access schools or educational settings - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/children-of-critical-workers-and-vulnerable-children-who-can-access-schools-or-educational-settings). It is important to remember that this is a closure due to the high numbers of staff not being able to provide face to face lessons, therefore we would appreciate the support parents/carers can give to ensure year 9 & 10 students access learning from home for the two days.

Furthermore, if your child is eligible for FSM, packed lunches for the two days will be available for collection from Reception between 10am-12pm. Please contact TCloggie@harrogatehighschool.co.uk if you wish to order your packed lunches.

We are not anticipating that we will have to close to a year group on Thursday, however, parents/carers should be mindful that this is a difficult situation to predict and therefore, be aware that there is a remote possibility that we may have to do so. **Please be aware that we will write to parents again on Wednesday if this is going to be the case. If you do not hear anything further, please ensure that you send your child to school as normal on Thursday 20th January as Year 9 & 10 students will only be learning from home for two days.**

I apologise for the inconvenience and disruption that this may cause, however, it is a necessary measure to ensure effective supervision in school. I hope that we can return to normal routines by Thursday.

Yours faithfully,



Mr S. S. Gill

Head of Academy

