



Tuesday 29th March 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

RE: Home Learning for Year 9 on Wednesday 30th, Thursday 31st March & Friday 1st April

As you may be aware, towards the end of last week we saw a sudden and dramatic rise in the number of Covid-19 cases within our staff. Owing to the nature of these absences I am sorry to say that the situation will not improve for several days and possibly not until the end of term. Therefore, we must ask Year 9 to learn from home for the remainder of this week.

Why have we taken this action?

We are currently experiencing much higher than usual staff absence. As many schools face similar challenges, supply agencies simply cannot provide us with additional relief staff. Given these constraints we do not have enough staff to provide supervision for all classes and therefore we cannot safely discharge our duty of care. By asking year groups to remain at home we reduce the number of classes that require supervision.

How long will these measures last?

We will continue to monitor developments and respond accordingly. If the situation does not improve we may need to ask additional year groups to work from home next week (most likely starting with Year 8 and then 7). We will provide as much notice as possible.

What provision will students receive at home?

As much as possible students will have a live lesson delivered via Teams. Lessons will last for 45 minutes and supplementary work may be set. Where live lessons cannot be provided because the class teacher is absent, independent work will be set via Teams (each morning we will email parents a list of absent staff so that you are aware of the lessons that won't be live). We will not provide live lessons for PE and encourage students to find an opportunity for their own suitable physical activity.

Information regarding Teams can be accessed via these links [for students](#) and [for parents](#). If you have any queries about remote learning provision then please contact my PA, Sarah Farndon (sfarndon@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk).

I am sorry for the ongoing disruption and grateful for your support in this. Please be assured that if we could avoid taking such action then we would.

Best wishes,

Nick McSweeney

Headteacher

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