

Message sent on behalf of Mr S Gray
5th January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

I am writing to you with a heavy heart as we enter a third period of national lockdown. Unfortunately, the school will be closed to most students for the remainder of this half-term. All of the plans that I outlined to you recently will no longer be implemented at this time.

Students will be educated remotely, mainly through Google Classroom, over the coming weeks and staff have been busy planning lessons and preparing materials. I realise that this is not an ideal situation, but feel the whole teaching profession has moved forward immensely in terms of remote learning over the past year. We will do our best to ensure that your child receives a quality education over the coming weeks. I have included the lesson times below. These are the same as the times followed prior to the Christmas break (please note that these are different to the times stipulated on Edulink).

A – Years 7, 8, 9 and 13

B – Years 10, 11 and 12

08.40 – 09.30	Period 1
09.30 – 10.20	Period 2
10.20 – 10.50	Form/Break A (please see note below)
10.50 – 11.20	Form/Break B (please see note below)
11.20 – 12.10	Period 3
12.10 – 13.00	Period 4/Lunch A
13.00 – 13.50	Period 4/Lunch B
13.50 – 14.40	Period 5
14.40 – 15.30	Period 6

Note: From Monday 11th January, form time will be the last 10 minutes of the published form time and students should log on and register with their form tutor.

We will keep in contact with you and your child through the following means of communication:

- Weekly assemblies delivered by the pastoral team and me
- We will reinstitute 'Calday Connected' on a weekly basis
- I will send a weekly update for you, outlining key local and national developments
- The pastoral team will run events for form groups

Members of the Senior Leadership Team and small numbers of other staff will continue to be in school. We will respond to correspondence (please email the school and do not visit the site), but this may not be as promptly as usual and we appreciate your understanding on this matter.

I recognise that this is a worrying time for students in Years 11 and 13. The Government has announced that examinations will not take place in their traditional format. At the moment, 'a number' of options are being considered and I will keep you updated on developments. I would encourage students in examination year groups to continue to work

hard for the remainder of their courses and not to lose motivation. If staff have to repeat the 'Centre Assessed Grade' model from last year, these will be based on mock examinations and ongoing assessments. Therefore, student performance over a sustained period of time is a key factor when determining grades. If I may share an experience with you from last year, some parents appealed their child's Centre Assessed Grade on the grounds that they would have performed better if they had been able to sit a final examination and that they did not realise that mock examinations and classroom assessments would be so important at the time. Needless to say, these were not successful grounds for appeal.

One final note for the parents/carers of 'key worker' children who are currently in school. After this week, there will be no school bus services (Merseytravel transport will continue to run) and no on-site catering. Therefore, you will have to provide transport for your child to and from school and send them in with a packed lunch. I apologise for any inconvenience that this may cause.

The staff are really disappointed that we have had to close again and we eagerly await the return of the students.

I hope that you remain healthy and send my best wishes over the coming weeks.

With best regards
Mr Gray