

TUESDAY DECEMBER 1ST 9.45AM

Dear Parents/Carers

We have now received information from staff and parents/carers that a number of tests that were taken yesterday have returned as positive.

To date we have 13 staff not in and a further 2 have been sent home today. 5 staff have positive tests and others are going for tests today. We now have information that five students in Year 11, one in year 9, two in year 10 and four in year 7 have also tested positive with others being notified to us as every hour passes.

Our school attendance today details under 40% of each year group being in school as families take a decision to self-isolate.

We have again assessed our situation and believe that when all the above information is considered we have no option but to close our school, to increase the safety for our students and staff, for all year groups and all staff. This will be for an initial period of one week while we further assess the infection rate and take further advice from Hertfordshire County Council and Public Health England. We would therefore be planning to open again **Wednesday December 9th**.

We have not taken this decision lightly and once again thank you for your support. We have always maintained the safety of our school community remains our priority and right now we are in a position where we judge the risks for this community are too high.

All work will be available over the next few days through google classroom or show my homework. Directors of Learning will once again operate their dedicated email systems. For families where students have Free School Meals we could be grateful if you could let us know by tomorrow (Weds) morning by 10.00am, if you would like to collect a week's supply of frozen meals from Herts Catering Service. We will then arrange a collection time for you.

Should any change be made to the reopening of the school we will communicate by schoolcomms and the website. Stay safe but please support us by ensuring your child remains at home through this period to keep them safe, your family safe and your community safe.

The school admin email will still be in use so please do keep us informed of any further positive tests. If we receive advice that your child should self-isolate because of close proximity to a child who has tested positive, we will communicate this to you. Please be aware that this is for 14 days from the point of contact

In terms of school collection today we would ask that you could collect your child as close to the following times as possible. Clearly if there are siblings we will collect them from other year groups when you arrive

- **Year 8 From 9.00**
- **Year 10 from 9.45**
- **Year 9 From 10.00**
- **Year 7 From 10.15**

6th form have been sent home

Staff will remain in school looking after any child who has to wait to be collected so please do not worry.

Thank you for your continuing understanding.