

20th January 2022

Dear Parent and Carers,

We are currently experiencing high levels of staff absence in our academy, and our staff are working incredibly hard to try and reduce the impact of this on our students. In conjunction with this, we are increasingly unable, despite our best efforts, to secure enough supply teachers as there is currently a shortage of these in our local area.

The education and welfare of our students remains our utmost priority, and it is for this reason that we reluctantly need to move to a temporary phase of home learning for some students. I understand that this may present challenges, and apologise for any disruption this may cause. Our aim is always to only move to this position when absolutely necessary, to allow us to safely manage and educate appropriate numbers of students in school. Therefore, the following will be put in place:

On **Friday 21st and Monday 24th January, Years 8 and 9** will move to a remote learning system. All other year groups should attend school as normal. On Friday 21st, students should complete a remote learning booklet that will be given to them when they leave school this afternoon, then on Monday 24th January, live lessons will be delivered remotely via Microsoft Teams.

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13
Friday 21st January	In school	Remote learning at home – booklet		In school	In school	In school	In school
Monday 24th January	In school	Remote learning at home – live lessons		In school	In school	In school	In school

We are hopeful that these measures are temporary and we can return to normal business on Tuesday 25th January.

Free School Meals

If your child is entitled to a free school meal, they are able to collect a meal from the academy reception between 12pm-12.30pm on both days to take away.

Students not in school will switch to a remote learning strategy

Students not in school will switch to our remote learning strategy. Whilst away from the classroom, students must stay at home and work remotely.

On Friday 21st January, students will need to work through the remote learning booklet that contains exercises from subjects across the curriculum.



On Monday 24th January, students will attend their normal timetabled lessons 'live' on Microsoft Teams, this includes morning registration, which is a vital welfare check. Students should log onto Microsoft Teams during their normal allocated lesson times to receive work from their subject teachers.

If your child is unwell on either day, please contact us in the normal way to record this as absence. We will be closely monitoring the virtual attendance and work of all students who are learning from home during this period.

If your child does not have access to a device, please contact the school office office@goodwinacademy.org.uk and we will endeavor to provide a laptop to you child, on loan.

Students with SEND or allocated social workers

If your child has SEND or an allocated social worker, we would like to offer the opportunity to continue attending school. Please contact office@goodwinacademy.org.uk if you wish your child to use this provision. School will run to the normal timetable for these students, however there will be no taught lessons and students will complete the same remote learning activities, but in school under our supervision.

These measures are necessary to enable us to safely manage staff levels whilst fulfilling our commitment to delivering the school curriculum to the highest standard.

My team and I understand and empathise with the challenges this may present, but please be assured that we will be doing everything that we can to support your families with this change.

We will be undertaking a review of the situation on Monday 24th January and we will contact you at the earliest opportunity should we need to put additional measures in place from Tuesday 25th January onwards. We are committed to regular communication with parents so please keep checking our usual channels, including MyEd, letters, our website, social media and your emails.

Thank you for your ongoing support and understanding during these challenging times.

Yours sincerely,

Mr S Smith
Principal