

Dear Parents and Carers

URGENT: Early Closure for Year 7, 8, 9 and 10

Unfortunately, we have had to make the difficult decision to close Brune Park School to **Year 7, 8, 9 and 10** from 14.05 on Friday 20th October. This is due to winter illnesses, including COVID-19, significantly increasing our staff absence.

All students in Year 7,8,9 and 10 will finish at the end of period 4, 14.05. This will support staff who have been redeployed to cover for absent colleagues earlier in the day.

Students in Year 7,8,9 and 10 will be able to access activities online in the afternoon. Information about this will be posted on their Google classrooms.

The safety of our young people is a priority, and we are aware that not all students will be able to go home at this time. For those who need to remain on site during Period 5, a small number of staff will be available to supervise students in the Hall. There will be a range of learning resources available to them, including apps and Google classroom.

Attendance remains a top priority for the GFM, as we know that being in school is vital both for protecting young people's education and for their mental health. Please be assured that we are doing everything possible to keep children in face-to-face education. As you will already be aware we continue to promote good hygiene. We are currently assessing the situation for next week as we appreciate parents and carers need as much notice as possible of any potential adjustments to the school day. We would like to reassure all parents and carers that we are doing all we can to keep the school fully open each day. We are having to react to this difficult situation on a day to day basis and we sincerely apologise for any inconvenience this early closure may cause.

We will continue to evaluate our staffing levels each day and ensure we work closely with parents and carers to give as much notice of any further closures should they be required. The school will continue to follow the advice from Public Health England and the Department of Education and keep parents and carers updated.

Thank you for your continued and ongoing support at this time.

Brune Park Leadership Team