



**Queen Katharine
Academy**



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Our Ref LM/jd/P16 Closure

7 January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

Temporary closure for some of the Sixth Form to move to remote learning – Monday 10th Jan to Friday 14th Jan.

Like many schools across the country, we are currently facing low staffing levels and are aware that this will continue at least over the next few days. We have therefore made the decision to move to remote learning for Sixth Form next week in the interest of our students' safety and wellbeing.

Students who are due to sit exams or controlled assessments over the next two weeks will still need to come in for their timetabled lessons and their exam sessions. A full list of these lessons can be found below:

- Applied Psychology
- Beauty
- Business – CTEC
- Business – Level 2
- Childcare
- Computer Science
- Dance
- Drama
- Health and Social Care
- Music
- Sport – Level 2
- Sport – Level 3
- Travel and Tourism

Once students complete their exam/controlled assessments they will no longer need to attend that lesson for the rest of next week.

Additionally, if students are still intending to apply for university and haven't sent their application off, they should come into school to use the Sixth Form study area and complete this process as the deadline is Friday 15th January.

This blended learning approach is very important, as it will allow all year groups to receive a mixture of face-to-face and remote learning, ensuring that the measures we need to put in place are fair for all students.

During their time at home, work for students in Sixth Form will be set on **Microsoft Teams** or **via their school email addresses**. If students cannot access a device from home the Sixth

Form study area will be open for students to work in during the day, under the supervision of a member of the Sixth Form team.

I want to be clear again that this partial closure is not because of positive cases of Covid-19 in the academy and under normal circumstances, staff absences rarely cause problems and can be quickly solved. However, under the current circumstances, schools are facing significant challenges with staff absences much higher than normal.

If there are any exceptional circumstances where pupils in Sixth Form are unable to access their learning at home over the next couple of days, please contact the Sixth Form team who will be able to offer some support.

All Sixth Form students should return to school on Monday 17th January as usual.

I would like to thank all our families for your support so far and apologise again for the disruption these decisions cause. I want to reassure you that the safety and wellbeing of our students is always our highest priority.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lynn Mayes." The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'L' and a trailing dot at the end.

Lynn Mayes
Principal, Queen Katharine Academy