



**Queen Katharine  
Academy**

A proud member of



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Our Ref LM/jd/Y8&10Closure

6 November 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

### **Temporary closure of Year 8 (Mon – Weds) and Year 10 (Thurs-Fri)**

In yesterday's letter, we explained to you that like many schools across the country we are currently facing low staffing levels. We are now aware that this is likely to continue next week and we have had to make further decisions today in the interest of our students' safety and wellbeing.

I want to be clear again that this is not because of any 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.

Next week, we will unfortunately need to ask all students in Year 8 to remain at home from Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November to Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November and all students in Year 10 to remain at home on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> November and Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November.

This blended approach for Year 8 and Year 10 is very important as it will allow both 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 Year 8 and 10 will be set on Microsoft Teams.

#### **See link below to access work for Year 8**

<https://teams.microsoft.com/l/team/19%3a9369756561b14a638598cb120c95ef75%40thread.tacv2/conversations?groupId=df251a8-5cc3-4c19-9b49-9cd152f83337&tenantId=f30a8c9e-6852-4df0-8cb3-99269b4f1d66>

#### **See link below to access work for Year 10**

<https://teams.microsoft.com/l/team/19%3adb408ad92def44d7abe2472a496f8a2e%40thread.tacv2/conversations?groupId=5f58cef4-411f-46fc-b854-6acdcf87b8a2&tenantId=f30a8c9e-6852-4df0-8cb3-99269b4f1d66>

If any student is unable to access online materials, they should use the day to revisit learning in their CGP booklets.

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As we wrote in yesterday's letter, all Year 9 students should return to school on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November as usual.

I would like to apologise again for the disruption these decisions cause but reassure you that that the safety and wellbeing of our students is always our highest priority.

We hope you all enjoy the weekend as best you can.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lynn Mayes." The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'L'.

**Lynn Mayes**  
**Principal, Queen Katharine Academy**