



**Queen Katharine  
Academy**

A proud member of



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Our Ref LM/jd/Y9&Y8 Closure

20 November 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

**Temporary closure of Year 9 (Mon – Wed 23<sup>rd</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> November) and Year 8 (Thurs-Fri 26<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> November)**

As previously explained, like many schools across the country we are currently facing low staffing levels. We are now aware that this will 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 as a result 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.

Next week, we will unfortunately need to ask all students in Year 9 to remain at home from Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> November to Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> November and all students in Year 8 to remain at home on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> November and Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November.

This blended approach for Year 9 and Year 8 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 9 and Year 8 will be set on Microsoft Teams.

**See link below to access work for Year 9**

<https://teams.microsoft.com/l/team/19%3a7bbeca2349594566b1dd130295ec9870%40thread.tacv2/conversations?groupId=d1c0f49a-5b8c-44e0-8974-e02da5ef1725&tenantId=f30a8c9e-6852-4df0-8cb3-99269b4f1d66>

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

: <https://teams.microsoft.com/l/team/19%3a9369756561b14a638598cb120c95ef75%40thread.tacv2/conversations?groupId=dff251a8-5cc3-4c19-9b49-9cd152f83337&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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All Post 16 students should return to school on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 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.

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' and a period at the end.

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