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Headteacher: Mr Nick McSweeney

Monday 31st January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

RE: Home Learning for Year 10 on 1st & 2nd February

Having managed with all students in school on Friday and today, it is with regret that we must ask Year 10 to learn from home tomorrow and Wednesday.

Why have we taken this action?

We are currently experiencing much higher than usual staff absence. As many schools face similar challenges, supply agencies simply cannot provide us with additional relief staff. Given these constraints we do not have enough staff to provide supervision for all classes and therefore we cannot safely discharge our duty of care. By asking year groups to remain at home we reduce the number of classes that require supervision.

How long will these measures last?

It remains unclear how long the high rate of staff absence will persist. We will continue to monitor developments and respond accordingly. If the situation does not improve we may need to ask additional year groups to work from home (continuing with the sequence of Year 9, then 8, then 7). We will provide as much notice as possible.

What provision will students receive at home?

As much as possible students will have a live lesson delivered via Teams. Lessons will last for 45 minutes and supplementary work may be set. Where live lessons cannot be provided because the class teacher is absent, independent work will be set via Teams (each morning we will email parents a list of absent staff so that you are aware of the lessons that won't be live). We will not provide live lessons for PE and encourage students to find an opportunity for their own suitable physical activity.

Information regarding Teams can be accessed via these links <u>for students</u> and <u>for parents</u>. If you have any queries about remote learning provision then please contact my PA, Sarah Farndon (<u>sfarndon@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk</u>).

I am sorry for the ongoing disruption and grateful for your support in this.

Best wishes,

Nick McSweeney

Headteacher

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