



10th December 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Year Group Closure Plan for the Week Commencing Monday 13th December 2021

I hope you and your families are well as we approach the Christmas break.

We currently have a significant number of the school staff who must self-isolate due to Covid-19 protocols. Furthermore, as you may have heard in the media, there is a severe lack of supply staff available because of an unprecedented demand for their services at this time.

These reduced staffing levels mean that we cannot ensure all students are supervised, both in and out of lessons, to the same high level we are accustomed to at Kirk Hallam Academy without reducing the number of students in school at any one time. We will, therefore, implement a contingency plan next week which allows for a combination of in school and home learning, with each of the following year groups taking 1 day to learn at home;

Day Students Work from Home	Year Group
Monday – 13 th	Year 9
Tuesday – 14 th	Year 8
Wednesday – 15 th	Year 12
Thursday – 16 th	Year 10
Friday – 17 th	Year 7

Year 11 and Year 13 will learn full time in school next week and continue to be our priority year groups for onsite teaching to support them in their preparation for end of year external exams.

We will of course offer a remote learning provision through MS Teams as we did earlier this year. For the day students are learning at home, they will be provided with a full timetable of work and we recommend they adhere to the timings of their normal school timetable, including breaks and lunchtimes. Please find the following link to remote learning portal.

<https://www.kirkhallamacademy.co.uk/page.php?p=remote>

This decision to modify our teaching approach has been a very difficult one but the safety of our children has to remain our primary concern.

If there is specific requirement for any of our vulnerable children to be in school on the days allocated for home learning please contact the school and we will make appropriate arrangements.

You may also be aware that the Government has asked all secondary schools to complete mass lateral flow testing of students on our return from the Christmas break. This means that we will need to plan a staggered start during the first week of term to ensure a thorough testing schedule. This will be communicated to you separately ASAP.

Please note all external vocational examinations on the first 3 days of next term remain a priority and will continue as planned, with the testing schedule fitting around these.

We appreciate your continued support.

Kind regards
Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Paley', written in a cursive style.

Mrs S Paley
Executive Headteacher