

Dear Parents & Carers,

There is philosophy and there is reality. At present, I have a significant number of teachers and support colleagues self isolating for very genuine reasons. Others are putting themselves at risk by continuing to be here and I need to give them permission to stay at home. Those of us who are not in an at risk group are happy to carry on until we are told not to by Public Health England. However in order to allow those colleagues who are at risk or showing symptoms to stay at home, we need to make some changes. As such, in line with other schools in the area, I am going to ask year 9 and year 12 to remain at home and move to remote learning until further notice.

This will ease demand at the school and allow us to operate at a much reduced capacity. I am starting with year nine as I hope they are mature enough to manage themselves at home if parents do not have the option to work from home. We will endeavor to stay in touch with them throughout the school day. (You will receive a further email from the team explaining how remote learning will work).

We are receiving a high number of calls and emails at the moment. I understand that people will be anxious. The collective answer to most of these questions is, if you are concerned and you wish to keep your children at home, we will authorise this and support you with the decision. Remote learning will only come online for years 9 and years 12 at this stage.

Please don't come to school unnecessarily, let's reduce the traffic right down. I don't say this lightly, we need to protect the vulnerable in our community. For the vast majority of us we will experience a mild illness and recover quickly. For some, looking around the world, it will be very serious and there is nothing clever in trying to pretend it's not happening, so as such I'm sorry for the inconvenience this will cause you, but down the line I would rather be accused of overreaction than inaction.

Please check the academy website for daily updates.

I appreciate your understanding.

Yours faithfully,

Kieran Scanlon
Principal



The Sir Robert Woodard Academy
Upper Boundstone Lane
Sompting
West Sussex

BN15 9QZ

t: 01903 767434

e: enquiries@srwa.woodard.co.uk

w: <http://www.srwa.woodard.co.uk/>