



Executive Headteacher: Mrs L. A. Gwinnett

Ref: 3224 LMA

18 January 2022

Dear Parent,

### Contingency Plans for Potential Disruption – Covid -19

With the additional planning and testing day at the start of the term, we were able to organise cover and resources to manage the successful return to school of all students. However, we do feel that we need to share our plans should we face escalating staffing concerns in the coming weeks. Please be reassured that we will do everything in our power to keep all year groups in school, but if we do not have enough staff for this to happen we would be forced to implement a plan for remote learning.

In this scenario, Years 10, 9 and 8 would be asked to stay at home two days on a rota. Year 7 students (due to their age and transition into high school) and Year 11 (who have examinations in the summer) would remain in school. Students who are vulnerable or whose parents are Key Workers and who are too young/vulnerable to leave at home alone would also remain in school.

The model below shows our proposal should we need to implement remote learning. This has been generated in line with a ten-day isolation period which should allow staff attendance to gradually return to a more 'normal' level. If staff absence were to continue to rise, we may be forced to ask more than one group to learn from home. In any of these situations, we will aim to give you as much notice as possible. A model of remote learning could be:

Day 1	Remote Learning planning and preparation
Day 2	Year 10 learning at home
Day 3	Year 10 learning at home
Day 4	Year 9 learning at home
Day 5	Year 9 learning at home
Day 6	Saturday
Day 7	Sunday
Day 8	Year 8 learning at home
Day 9	Year 8 learning at home
Day 10	All year groups back in school <b>OR</b> Remote learning rota continues if teacher absence is still high



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## Learning at Home

All of the learning that takes place at home will be delivered through instruction on ClassCharts but it will mainly direct students to their Google Classroom. All of our students had a refresher session last Friday to remind them how to access Google Classroom which will support them to complete homework and in the instance that they are working from home. This information is available on the website [here](#).

Home learning may take two different forms this year:

1. **Blended Learning.** Learning at home by a student who has tested positive for COVID-19 and who feels well enough to work whilst the rest of their classmates are in school
2. **Remote learning.** A whole year group is working at home on a temporary basis.

### Blended Learning – For a student who has tested positive for COVID-19

The assumption here is that a student is asymptomatic or that they are well enough to complete their school work. As a parent with direct contact with the young person, if you could keep us informed if your child is well or unwell, this would help our staff to monitor engagement, submission and support the students as they return to school.

Students will be provided with home learning and links will be provided via ClassCharts to work set in their Google Classroom, this would be in line with their usual timetable and for the days they are absent. This may include: presentations with instructions and learning activities within them, links to recorded lessons by their teacher or a teacher from another school e.g. Oak National Academy or Greenshaw Learning Trust.

### Remote Learning – A whole year group is working at home on a temporary basis

This will happen if students are needed to work at home as a whole year group due to increased levels of staff absence. In this scenario your child's timetable will be adapted to include subjects that they study, a combination of 'live lessons' and online learning directed on ClassCharts. In this case, the lessons may not necessarily be the ones they would have on their timetable for that day, but they will be the subjects that the student studies.

Some of the remote learning will be in the form of 'live lessons' through Google Meet. This will mean that a group of students will be taught by a subject specialist teacher whilst other adults support in school and cover other classes. The 'live lesson' will have a period of teacher explanation and modelling and then follow up task(s) for students to complete at home. There will be a scheduled time during the lesson for



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students to ask questions to the teacher via the Google Meet chat. Attendance will of course be monitored, recorded and absence reported.

Students have been told the aim of the live sessions and the expectations regarding the running of the session and their conduct. These will be published to parents if we have to move to the remote learning schedule

In the event that the staffing levels became critical overnight, we may be forced to move straight to day two provision (according to the table above), Year 10 at home immediately. In this case, on day one, the learning would be directed by ClassCharts. Day two would include some 'live lessons.'

## Preparing for Remote Learning

We have asked all of our families to complete the ICT survey which allows us to manage the provision of ICT in terms of devices and connectivity. We have had in the region of 400 responses. If you have not completed the survey which will take less than one minutes, please follow this link: [ICT Survey - BPA](#)

In the event that we would need to revert to remote learning, we would still be making provision, on site, for the children of Keyworkers and some vulnerable students.

As a Keyworker, if your child has previously been included in this you do not need to do anything. However, if your child has not previously been included or your child has previously been in school but would no longer need to be, please email us so that we can update our records and ensure appropriate provision is in place.

There are a range of reasons why a child may be deemed vulnerable and these are defined by the Department for Education. These range from having additional SEND needs, to a child requiring additional support related to their mental health or that they support of a social worker - the needs are many and varied. If your child requires this extra support, we have already identified them and we will get in touch with you directly. They would be expected to attend school as normal and complete their work in line with their peers working off site.

As a general reminder, particularly as we are in the winter months, [here](#) is the information that relates to an unexpected school closure.

For any further support or information on the information outlined in this letter, please contact [enquiries@burscoughprioryacademy.org](mailto:enquiries@burscoughprioryacademy.org)



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Despite all of the planning, this will only happen as an absolute last resort. Our current staffing levels are challenging but manageable and we continue with business as usual in school. The students and staff have made an excellent start to 2022 and we are committed to making sure that school is safe and that the students have an excellent experience. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours faithfully,

*L MacLaren*

Mrs MacLaren  
**Headteacher**

