



Ref: YPE/era

Date: 25 November 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

WEEK COMMENCING: MONDAY 30 NOVEMBER 2020

**CLOSURE TO YEAR 10 & 11 STUDENTS
OPENING FOR YEAR 7, 8 & 9 STUDENTS**

Here in The Sittingbourne School, we are fully committed to providing quality teaching and learning for our students in the lead up to Christmas. We know that students being out of school for any period of time is far from ideal and we are doing everything we can to avoid this.

So that we can deliver some much needed face to face teaching for Year 7, 8 and 9, next week we are very happy to be opening the school to them. This does mean, however, that we will be closed next week to Year 10 and 11. We are pleased to be keeping our Sixth Form fully open.

As I explained in my last letter to you, we must have appropriate staffing levels to ensure the safety of all. Unfortunately, with the challenging situation across Swale, we have a very significant number of staff isolating. To allow us to operate the school safely, we simply cannot accommodate all year groups at present.

We understand that this will cause some frustration and challenges for parents and carers; however, we trust that you appreciate the difficulty of these circumstances and thank you for your patience and understanding.

Please be reminded that students who are at home should be actively engaging with the work set by teachers - through both Google Classroom and with work packs where provided. Their effort and commitment to this is vital to preventing any gaps in learning, and we are grateful for your support with this.

Please also be reminded that any student who has been asked to isolate must not come into school until their isolation period is complete.

We continue to work relentlessly with the Department for Education, Public Health England and the Local Authority in making every decision, as the situation changes on a daily basis.

We will be in touch next week with an update, and we are very much hoping to be able to increase our provision by getting more of our young people back in school.

Yours faithfully



Ms Y Peden
Headteacher