

Dear Parent / Carer

As you are aware the rate of infection for Coronavirus is increasing in Hull. We have seen a sharp increase in cases around our area. This has placed significant strain on the school due to staff absence, caused by the need to isolate either through track and trace or health reasons and the demands of lockdown on childcare.

Other schools in our area have taken the step to introduce rotas. This is where a year group stays at home and does work through Google Classroom; this frees up teachers to teach classes for absent colleagues. Unfortunately, we have reached the decision that we will also need to take this step to ensure we can maintain our high standards for those in our care and provide a high quality educational experience for our students.

If we continued to remain fully open, with the increasingly high numbers of staff needing to be at home who are alerted throughout the day, there is the possibility that at some point during the day I would have to send a year group home and this is disruptive and sometimes less safe for children since parents have to change plans during the day. Taking the step of introducing a rota means everyone can plan accordingly.

Therefore I am asking, for the next two weeks a year group stays at home as per the table below. (Year 11, 12 and 13 students have examinations coming up therefore they are a priority to stay in school).

At this stage, I am asking that Year Nine and then Year Eight students are at home for one week.

The details are below:

Year group	Monday 16th - Friday 20th November	Monday 23rd November - Friday 27th November
9	Working from home	At school
8	At school	Working from home

Over these two weeks I will review the situation and take advice from the relevant authorities. I hope we can go back to normal after this period of time; however, this is dependent on the national and local situation.

If you are a key worker, and you feel your child needs to come into the Academy as they did during the first period of lockdown, please contact the Academy and we will speak with you.

This rota system will ensure that your child is taught by a teacher who knows the Academy and its systems and is able to deliver learning to a high standard. Children at home will have work set work to complete online and we will put in place a rota of online lessons that your child can take part in. Please see the website for details.

If you feel your child needs access to a device to help them engage with online learning or you need your child to have a paper pack please contact the Academy.

We will continue to contact students as they work from home to ensure they are well and keeping up to date with their work.

If you are in receipt of free school meals and need food provided each day please contact the Academy and we can arrange a pick up bag for you to collect from the main reception.

For all enquiries please contact the Academy on: info@sentamuacademy.org or ring on (01482) 781912

I hope you understand this is not an option we wish to take at this stage and I hope we can get back to normal as soon as possible.

Please take care of each other, you remain in our prayers.

Chay Bell
Academy Principal