

19<sup>th</sup> October 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Following my decision on Friday 15 October to partially close the Academy to Year 10 students, I am pleased to inform you that our staffing situation has improved and we are now able to safely accommodate all students in the academy. Therefore from Wednesday 20 October, Year 10 students will be asked to return to face-to-face learning and remote 'home learning' will no longer be provided. I want to thank you for your continued cooperation and support during the partial closure. Students have conducted themselves exceptionally well and teachers have reported strong engagement in the home learning tasks. Staff will review students' learning upon their return to school and ensure that any gaps or misconceptions are addressed.

The academy continues to communicate and act upon guidance provided from the local health protection team. We will continue to maintain the daily systems of control in place in the academy this term; additional hand sanitisation, forward facing seating in classrooms and separate year group break times. In light of the significantly escalating case rates across the County, North Yorkshire Public Health support schools in advising the wearing of face coverings in communal areas and where social distancing is not possible. Please be reminded that the academy has a supply of face coverings available to students who would wish to wear them whilst in the academy. We have some students and staff members who have continued to wear them throughout this term. We appreciate your support in assisting with the safety measures for the entire academy community and can continue to provide students and families with home testing kits to promote twice weekly testing. Should your child require more tests and does not know where to access these please ask them to speak to their form tutor.

As I'm sure you will understand, the decision to close the academy to even one year group is something which I have not done lightly. We are looking forward to welcoming year 10 back into the academy building. As a year group they have started this academic year brilliantly and have recorded seven times more praise logs than sanctions this half term. Thank you for your understanding and support during this difficult time.

Yours faithfully



Mr W Pratt

**Principal**