



1<sup>st</sup> February 2022

Dear Parent / Carer

You will be aware that Covid cases regionally and locally have increased recently. We have been extremely fortunate here at St Laurence in that student infection rates have remained relatively low compared to other local schools. However, during last week and the beginning of this week we have seen a significant increase in staff infection so we met today to plan cover for the remainder of the week. Based on current cases alone, we are unable to cover some lessons tomorrow having already booked in several external supply teachers, collapsed some classes and asked staff to give up their non-teaching time. Were there to be any further cases amongst staff, the situation would be compounded further.

For this reason, I have sadly had to make the very difficult decision that on:

**Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> February, YEAR 8 must remain at home**

**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> February YEAR 9 must remain at home**

Work will be uploaded on to Classcharts for all students to complete. Live lessons will not take place as teachers will be re-deployed in school to cover for absent staff.

**All other year groups must be in School as normal**

Depending on what happens over the next two days, I will make a decision about year 10 for Friday and inform you as soon as possible.

I am acutely aware that this will be significantly inconvenient for you and if I were able to ensure classes could run without closing a year group, I would. I hope that staggering it over two days for two year groups will mean less impact on teaching and learning and that having only one day of learning via Classcharts will not be too disruptive. We are not the only school locally to have had to implement this strategy and I hope you will understand that this is a last resort. Your patience and support are always appreciated.

Please ensure your children continue to test twice a week.

Best wishes.

Kind regards

Tim Farrer  
Headteacher