



13th December 2021

Dear Families,

As you know, despite the update yesterday by the Prime Minister and the ongoing challenges, schools remain open at this time.

Unfortunately, we are now experiencing some challenges with staffing at Walworth Academy, which means we need to move to a partial timetable for some students. This is largely as a result of seasonal absence and the new requirements to isolate so we hope this will ease with the change of regulations coming in later this week, but we need to ensure we have the right numbers of staff in school to deliver lessons for students.

School is therefore currently closed to students in Years 9 and 10 today and tomorrow (Tuesday 14th December).

The school has not reached the Public Health reporting threshold for student cases so families do not need to worry unduly – it genuinely is a staffing issue. We remain in contact with the Department for Education, who are happy with our control measures and will let us know if anything needs to change. **It is, however, really important that families continue to support us by ensuring their children do their home tests twice a week.** Any positive results should be reported to us and confirmatory PCR tests should be arranged.

Students in Years 9 and 10 can find class work on ShowMyHomework and should continue to study during this short break. Families are reminded that **every child in our school is entitled to a Walworth Academy laptop at no cost** and we would urge that all take up that offer at this time just in case of suspension of contact lessons later in the year. The forms for these can be picked up at main reception at any time by students or by families.

No students in other year groups should be remote learning during this time; the schedule is organised to insulate exam groups so students in all other years are expected in school unless in receipt of a positive test. This is particularly important for students in Years 11 and 13, who are on track to sit formal examinations this year.

As always, please contact your child's director of progress with any concerns you may have. We will do our best to support and reassure you.

Yours faithfully,

Ms J West
Principal

Ark Walworth Academy

Shorncliffe Road
London SE1 5UJ
T (020) 7450 9570

info@walworthacademy.org
www.walworthacademy.org
Principal: Ms Jessica West



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