



17<sup>th</sup> October 2022

Dear Parents & Carers,

### Year 8, 9 and 10 Update

Further to our letter last week regarding our partial school closure, we write to update you on what your child can expect whilst working independently from home between Monday 31st October to Friday 4th November.

I appreciate your concerns about your child not being in school. We are trying to minimise the impact as much as possible by working over the half term holiday but due to the extended time that heavy machinery will be on site, and an increase in the areas of the school that will not be accessible, we do not have sufficient classrooms for all of our students to be in attendance.

To help support your child, teaching staff have been asked to set all work via Satchel One for the day that they would normally be in lessons. For example, if a student is normally timetabled to have their first English lesson of that week on Wednesday, they would not see any work appear on Satchel One until Wednesday morning. This is to help students not feel overwhelmed by lots of work appearing all at the same time.

Staff will communicate clearly the expected amount of time students should spend on each piece of work. Students should try to ensure they stick to this time constraint, even if this means they may not fully finish the piece of work. This aims to support students to not spend too much time on one piece of work, particularly if they are struggling. This should hopefully signal to students that they have permission to stop a piece of work after the set time without feeling overly concerned or anxious.

Teaching staff will NOT be setting any work that introduces new knowledge or concepts. We recognise that some students may struggle with working independently and we do not want any student to feel they may fall behind if they have not fully completed their work. Staff have been asked to provide the following types of tasks:

- Pre-learning tasks (for example, a reading task)
- Tasks that are chunked into smaller steps to help scaffold activities
- Tasks that include some time away from the computer screen
- Quizzes
- Retrieval practice (revision – Mindmaps / flashcards / graphic organisers / Note taking)
- Use of Knowledge Organisers
- Watching video clips / podcasts
- Online collaborative tasks
- Use of certain online programmes e.g. Seneca, Sparx

Students will not receive homework during this particular week. If students have clearly attempted the work, showing effort has been made, and as a result the work is still not complete, then sanctions will NOT be issued.



West Walton, Wisbech, Cambridgeshire, PE14 7HA

Telephone 01945 584146

Email [office@marshlandhigh.co.uk](mailto:office@marshlandhigh.co.uk)

Company Registration Number: 07546118

Headteacher: Mr C Jansen BA(Hons)

[www.marshlandhigh.co.uk](http://www.marshlandhigh.co.uk)

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If your child receives free school meals, we have arranged a Tesco email voucher to be sent to you on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> October before 12 noon for £15. Please look out for this email in your inbox or check your spam folder. Email [finance@marshlandhigh.co.uk](mailto:finance@marshlandhigh.co.uk) if you do not receive your voucher.

If your child needs assistance with access to a loan computer to complete their work, please contact Mr Lucas, email: [d.lucas@marshlandhigh.co.uk](mailto:d.lucas@marshlandhigh.co.uk) by Tuesday 18th October.

Tutors have been asked to call home at least once during this week to undertake a wellbeing check on your child.

We expect to return to full normal education provision for all students, week commencing Monday 7th November.

Thank you for your understanding and support during this time.

If you have any further questions regarding this matter please do contact the school.

Yours faithfully,

Mr Craig Jansen

Headteacher



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