

9<sup>th</sup> March 2023

**Partial School Closure – Years 7 and 8 – Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

Dear parents and carers,

We have reviewed the latest weather forecasts for Blacon and the surrounding areas. There are concerns about the level of further expected snowfall, freezing temperatures, the amber weather warning in place and the amount of staff that we have living in North Wales where travel has been challenging and Flintshire schools have closed.

Based on the number of staff who were unable to travel today, along with additional absence which we know about in advance for tomorrow, we are expecting staffing levels to be reduced by 20%. After reviewing the risk assessment with Governors, **we are therefore making the decision to close to students in Years 7 and 8 tomorrow – Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March. School will remain open for all other students in Years 9, 10 and 11 and those in Years 7 and 8 with an external plan (who we have already arranged to be in next week for the strike days).**

For the Year 8 students due to go to Storyhouse for International Women’s Day, they should come into school as usual as this trip will be able to go ahead.

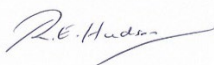
We are sorry for the disruption that this will cause to parents but our priority is to ensure the safety of students in school. In order to do this, we must have enough staff and appropriate ratios of staff to students to cover lessons and duties around school. We appreciate that there will be frustration and disruption to learning but this decision has been made on the grounds of health and safety.

Learning will be available for students to access on Google Classroom. For students eligible for free school meals, a packed lunch will be available for collection between 11am and 1.00pm.

This is not a decision that we have taken lightly but we wanted to give parents as much notice as possible. If the situation changes, we will send out further communication in the morning on the school website and social media.

Thank you in advance for your continued support and understanding.

Regards,



Rachel Hudson  
Headteacher