

Wednesday 16th March 2022

Dear Varndean families

**RE: arrangements for Thursday and Friday this week**

Staff absence has been especially high this week and it is proving impossible to secure sufficient supply cover to run the timetable as planned. We have managed so far this week with classes being merged and securing additional supply teachers. With further Covid illness today, we now need to make alternative arrangements for the remainder of the week.

As a result I am going to have to make some short term adjustments to the school day for some classes for the rest of this week; these are set out below. I appreciate that this is far from ideal and therefore I have tried to keep these changes to the minimum in order to lessen the disruption both to families and to learning.

|         | Thursday 17th March  | Friday 18th March  |
|---------|--|--|
| Year 7  | The following tutor groups LNE/LBU/EVA/SJA/KXC arrive at 10.55 ready for lessons starting at 11.05 (students miss PE)  | Normal day   |
| Year 8  | 8AMI - start at 10.55 ready for lessons starting at 11.05 (work in the google classroom for geography and drama)       | Normal day   |
| Year 9  | All students start at 10.55 ready for lessons at 11.05. Webinars in Science and English to replace timetabled lessons. | Normal day   |
| Year 10 | 10Y English groups reorganised period 3  | Early finish - students leave at 12.45 science webinar period 3 replaces timetabled lessons                                    |
| Year 11 | PE groups reorganised period 2   | Students arrive at 12.45 ready for period 3. English webinar period 1 and science webinar period 2 replace timetabled lessons. |



Please note:

- Students starting late or finishing early will be able to use the canteen on arrival or before they leave to ensure they get access to food as required.
- When students are not in school they must log into the webinars (the codes will be sent to their school email account in the morning) or their google classroom as detailed above. All students will be expected to be completing and submitting school work whilst at home.
- If you are worried about the impact any of these arrangements may have on your child then please contact the respective school base and we will do our utmost to find a workable solution for you.

I am hopeful that these measures will be sufficient to allow us to operate effectively over the next two days before returning to normal next week. Of course I will keep in touch with you should the situation change and further adjustment is required.

I am sorry that I have had to make these decisions at such short notice and I know they will cause disruption for you and your child. Please be reassured that I really do not have any other options at the moment.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Kind regards

Mrs Shelley Baker  
Headteacher

