

5 January 2022

Dear Families

**Notification of School Closure from Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> January for Year 8 and Year 9 students**

I hope this letter finds you safe and well. I would like to thank students and families for supporting the on-site testing programme in school over the last few days.

I am writing to update you on the impact which Covid-19 and the new variant, Omicron, is having on the Academy.

As we return to school the number of staff absences is significant. This impacts on the ability to teach when all year groups are in lessons face to face in school. This does not just impact on the quality of lessons but also the safety of our students. This major concern is due to the significant staff absence levels we are currently facing.

In consultation with Mr Davies, the Chief Executive of The Two Counties Trust, the difficult decision has been made that we must provide remote learning to Y8 and Y9 students on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> and Friday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2022 rather than on site.

High-quality remote learning will be provided to make sure our students continue to receive the high-quality education that you expect from the Manor Academy. We know that this places pressure on you at a difficult time but your support in helping your child engage with remote learning as much as possible is so important and we are very grateful for it.

A further letter will be sent with details of the remote learning plan including a timetable of on-line lessons for your child.

It is hoped that our circumstances improve and that we can return to face to face lessons on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2022. We will continue to stay in touch with you on this matter, and about your child's education.

I would like to assure all of our families that this decision has not been taken lightly and that if our circumstances change for the better then we will return to our normal operation as quickly as possible.

If you have any major concerns regarding this arrangement, then please contact the Academy. As always, we continue to balance the health and safety of our community with the quality of education.

Yours faithfully



**Headteacher**