STURMINSTER NEWTON HIGH SCHOOL

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Unlocking Potential for Our Community

06/12/2022

Dear Parents/Carers

As you may be aware, sickness absence from school is running very high, with almost 20% of students and 30% of teaching staff ill yesterday. Many schools in the area are suffering similar issues, which then means that supply cover is very difficult to source. We are working extremely hard to keep running, but this does mean that students are receiving a lot of cover lessons and the remaining staff are being put under increased pressure.

Unfortunately, if the current staff sickness rates continue it will become impossible to cover lessons and to supervise the site safely. In this situation the decision will be taken to partially close the school by requiring year groups in rotation to remain at home and complete work remotely. In order to prioritise examination groups, the first year groups affected would be Years 9,8 and 7.

I do hope the situation improves and we do not have to resort to these measures, but I thought it better to be transparent and warn parents and carers that this could be a possibility in the coming days.

I would ask all parents/carers to monitor their emails and the school website in case we have to announce a partial closure.

Jason Davis

Headteacher













