



Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

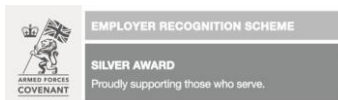
I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support and patience during today's unforeseen closure of Pool Hayes Academy. It is in no small part because of this incredible support that you offer, that we were able to ensure the safe and swift departure of all students from our site today.

Whilst we endeavour to keep the school open wherever possible, today's decision was necessary to ensure everyone's continued safety and hygiene standards. Emergency maintenance work was carried out by Severn Trent over the Bank Holiday weekend which resulted in significant disruption to our mains water pressure. Whilst the pressure was enough for us to ensure moderate use, at pivotal moments in the academy day we have increased demands on water flow (such as break and lunch times) and today this resulted in a drop of pressure below acceptable standards. Now, more than ever, during a pandemic, we are aware of the importance of hygiene and this decision was made to ensure the continued safety of all our students, staff, and community stakeholders. We were unable to offer our curriculum of Live Lessons at such short notice for the entire school as we have done previously with other academy closures.

We have been working closely with Severn Trent throughout the day to ensure a timely resolution to this issue. However, they have been unable to guarantee a resolution in place prior to the start of school tomorrow. As a result, tomorrow we will be able to facilitate a partial reopening of the school to prevent any of the challenges experienced today where there was an increased demand on the water pressure resulting in a complete loss. For tomorrow, the following will be in place;

### **Years 7, 8, 9, and 13**

These year groups will receive their education via our Distance Learning Strategy for tomorrow. Your child's teachers will have prepared and planned for this following our decision to close this afternoon. Your child will still be able to access their learning remotely via Microsoft Teams. Students will follow their timetable as usual and log onto Microsoft Teams at the beginning of the day where they will see that their teachers have sent them invitations to Live Lessons. A guide reminding students how to access Live Lessons can be found on our website using the following address; [www.poolhayes.atrust.org.uk/distance-learning/](http://www.poolhayes.atrust.org.uk/distance-learning/) . If your child is in Years 7, 8, 9 or 13, and has an EHCP or a social worker, and you require additional support tomorrow during this closure, please contact us on [office@poolhayes.atrust.org.uk](mailto:office@poolhayes.atrust.org.uk).



## Years 10, 11 and 12

These year groups will continue to have face to face education tomorrow and should expect their lessons as normal on site. They should arrive at the normal time, in full uniform and with all relevant equipment for the day. Year 11 will also have their Session 7 as normal until 4:30pm tomorrow afternoon.

Further information relating to the outcome of the investigatory works conducted by Severn Trent will be communicated appropriately to you and we are aiming for a full reopening of the academy as soon as safely possible.

It is at moments like these that I am proud both of our students who responded very maturely to an uncertain situation this afternoon, but also of our staff who worked diligently to ensure the safety of all students.

Yours sincerely,



Mr Bradnick-Thompson  
Acting Principal

