

20 November 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

**Temporary closure of JSTC – update (week commencing Monday 23 November 2020)**

JSTC will be extending the temporary closure of school for another week. This is as a result of continued staff absence due to required self-isolation, other school and nursery closures and some student cohorts remaining out of school. ***School is expected to re-open to all students on Monday 30 November.***

**Virtual lessons for Years 9, 10 and 11**

Our teaching staff will continue to deliver virtual lessons over Teams, within the same schedule, as experienced this week for Years 11, 10 and 9. These lessons offer students the same lesson content that they would experience if they were taking part in face to face lessons. Content therefore follows the GCSE curriculum for Years 10 and 11. For Year 9 the content follows the departmental 5 year curriculum plan leading to an introduction to KS4 courses.

**Years 7 and 8**

Work from class teachers for Years 7 and 8 will continue to be uploaded onto Class Charts. Again, this work is a continuation of the teaching and learning for each individual class. Students should follow their teachers' instructions for the uploading of completed work for feedback.

**Support for students and families**

Our Progress Teams are working hard to contact families during this period of temporary closure. Through these telephone calls we can offer support to your family and your child(ren). If you need to contact school to arrange a bespoke call to the Progress Teams or another key member of staff that you are usually supported by, please contact the relevant Progress Team email (available on the website) or send your enquiry to [office@jstc.org.uk](mailto:office@jstc.org.uk). Your email will be responded to within 24 hours.

Please contact school if you are experiencing difficulties with IT equipment and need support getting your child(ren) onto Teams.

**Monitoring student engagement**

We are hugely grateful to parents for supporting at home with access to our learning platforms. We monitor the attendance of students for all of our virtual lessons by taking registers so that we can identify families and students that might be struggling with this concept. Class Chart activity is also monitored so that teachers are aware of the work being undertaken by Year 7 and Year 8 students.

***Please remember it is a learning curve for everyone, you are not alone and we are here to help.***

We will continue to update you on the situation during next week as we progress towards a return to school.

Yours sincerely



Ms J Shorrocks  
Headteacher

