

Our ref: HBE/MM/1633

January 30<sup>th</sup> 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am sorry to inform you that we have been experiencing significant issues with both the heating and the electrics in North Block this week. Unfortunately, the situation has reached a point whereby there is now no heating in the entire of North Block. We have tried very hard to remedy this problem over the week but have not been able to find a safe and satisfactory solution.

**Therefore, it is with regret that I have made the difficult decision to close the school to certain year groups tomorrow (Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January) and Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February. The following year groups should remain at home tomorrow and Monday:**

**Year 8  
Year 10  
Year 12\***

**\*Pupils in Year 12 who are scheduled to have an exam on Monday (Government and Politics and Sociology) should attend for their exam only as these are held in the Savannah suite which is heated.**

This means we can temporarily close North Block which is home to some 25 teaching spaces. We do not have any spare teaching spaces available in the rest of the school to re-room 125 teaching sessions that are timetabled for North Block tomorrow and again on Monday.

We will remain open to pupils in Years 7, 9, 11 and 13 and to pupils with an EHCP in Years 8, 10 and 12 and those defined as vulnerable. All parents and carers whose child/ren fit these criteria in the affected year groups have been notified separately. The school buses will continue to run as normal on these days for all other pupils.

Again, this decision has not been taken lightly. We remain committed to providing a safe and secure environment for all our pupils; however, with the very limited teaching spaces we will have available on these days, we can only open to an identified cohort of pupils.

I am sorry that you may have to make alternative arrangements for your child at short notice, and that they will experience disruption to their education. I understand that this situation will be frustrating.



Saint Benedict  
A Catholic Voluntary Academy

We are working closely with the Trust and contractors to find a solution to these issues. I will inform you as soon as a solution has been found. However, it is possible that I may have to close the school to pupils in other year groups on different days next week if the problem continues. Should this be the case, I will notify you as soon as I am able to.

Work will be set on Satchel One for pupils in Years 8, 10 and 12 and they will be expected to complete this.

Once again, I am very sorry I have had to take this action, and I thank you in advance for your understanding.

If you have any questions, please email Marian McMinn on [enquiries@ben.srscmat.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@ben.srscmat.co.uk).

Kind regards,

Hazel Boyce  
**Headteacher**



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