Our ref: HBE/MM/1634

February 3rd 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Further to my communication with you on Thursday of last week, I write to update you on the situation in North Block.

Unfortunately, we still have no heating in the entire block and surveys have identified the difficulties in remedying this problem. The Trust are working hard with contractors to find an alternative solution and are hopeful work will commence on the block later this week.

**Therefore, the school will remain partially closed to the following Year groups over the next 5 school days:**

**Tuesday 4th February – Year 10 and Year 9**

**Wednesday 5th February – Year 9 and Year 11\***

**Thursday 6th February – Year 11 and Year 7**

**Friday 7th February – Year 7 and Year 13**

**Monday 10th February – Year 7 and Year 8**

**\*Year 11 Drama students will need to attend on Wednesday as normal for their GCSE practical Drama exam.**

North Block will remain closed during this time.

We will remain open to pupils with an EHCP and those defined as vulnerable in the Year Groups identified as being closed. All parents and carers whose child/ren fit these criteria in the affected year groups have been notified separately.

Again, this decision has not been taken lightly. The safety and wellbeing of pupils and staff is my utmost priority. With the very limited teaching spaces we will have available on these days, we can only open to the identified cohorts of pupils.

Pupils in Year Groups to whom we are not closed must attend as normal and their lessons will take place in South Block. School buses will continue to run as normal on these days.

If your child is in receipt of a free school meal, please check your emails for a voucher code which can be redeemed in lieu of the school meal.

I understand that this situation is frustrating, and I apologise for this and the inconvenience it is likely causing you. I will keep you informed of any updates as soon as I have any.

Work will be set on Satchel One for pupils when they are not scheduled to be in school and they will be expected to complete this.

If you have any questions, please email Marian McMinn on enquiries@ben.srscmat.co.uk.

Kind regards,



Hazel Boyce

**Headteacher**