



Ballyclare Secondary School

Doagh Road
Ballyclare
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Principal: Mrs K O Bell BA Adv Cert Ed PQH

8th December 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

I am writing to inform you that as a direct result of the COVID-19 pandemic, there are unprecedented pressures on both teaching and non-teaching staff within schools across the entire education system in Northern Ireland.

As a result, there is a significant shortage of available substitute teachers across all sectors and many schools are finding that obtaining substitute teachers has become impossible. Schools cannot replace absent teachers with classroom assistants. Ballyclare Secondary School has a duty of care to ensure the health and safety of all pupils and staff.

Unfortunately, safe levels of staffing cannot be maintained in our school and classes now must be closed to face to face teaching and move to remote learning. **On Thursday 9th and Friday 10th December 2021, pupils in years 9 and 10 will access their learning remotely via Google Classroom.**

This decision is not one that I or the Board of Governors has taken lightly, however we thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Mrs K. Bell

Mrs K Bell

Principal

