



Ballyclare Secondary School

Doagh Road
Ballyclare
Co Antrim
BT39 9BG

Tel: 028 9332 2610

Principal: Mrs K O Bell BA Adv Cert Ed PQH

10th 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, this week safe levels of staffing could not be maintained in our school and Year 9 and 10 classes were closed to face to face teaching and moved to remote learning. **Year 10 will return to school on Monday 13th December 2021 and Year 9 will return on Tuesday 14th December 2021.**

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Mrs. K. Bell

Mrs K Bell

Principal

