



22 January 2010

Dear Parent/Carer

I am writing this letter after what has been a dramatic and eventful start to the calendar year and Spring Term with the appalling weather conditions.

I apologise for the fact that I had to make the decision to close Pendle Vale College on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January. These decisions were made on health and safety grounds for staff and students. As Headteacher I will always try and ensure that the College remains open as we value, like you, the education of your children and want to avoid any interruption to this.

I have to express some concern and disappointment that despite the fact that the College was open on the Thursday and Friday a large number of students stayed away. Can I advise parents that they will always be able to find out whether the College is open by listening to 2BR or Radio Lancashire for school closures. Our Pendle Vale College website, which is regularly updated, plus those for 2BR and Radio Lancashire will also indicate whether we are closed or open. I have resolved the phone issue, which up to 8 o'clock on the Thursday indicated we were closed, I apologise for the confusing message this gave.

Some parents have quoted health and safety reasons for keeping their child away from College, I would ask that every attempt should be made to get your child to College whilst keeping them safe. This may result in them arriving slightly later which will be excused in the circumstances. Your support and co-operation on this matter would be greatly appreciated.

We are currently exploring the feasibility of purchasing a system whereby we can automatically contact parents by text message or email for important information. This would clearly help in a situation like this.

### **Form Inspections**

Can I also take this opportunity to flag up that from next week, starting with Year 7, we will be introducing Form Inspections for Year 7 to 10. This will involve senior staff inspecting a form on uniform, planners, basic equipment, state of exercise books and locker inspections. Students with poor attendance and punctuality will be spoke to individually. Your support in ensuring that your child is fully prepared for these inspections, see attached timetable, would be greatly appreciated. For your information, basic equipment is pens (at least 2), pencils, ruler, rubber and sharpener. A basic geometry set and calculator are optional but preferable!

# Pendle Vale College

Think Pendle Vale think Achievement



Oxford Road, Nelson, Lancashire BB9 8LF

Tel: 01282 682240

Fax: 01282 682289

Email: [reception@pendlevale.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:reception@pendlevale.lancs.sch.uk)

Website: [www.pendlevale.lancs.sch.uk](http://www.pendlevale.lancs.sch.uk)

Headteacher: Mr S Wilson, BA (Hons) NPQH

Thank you for your continued support and the very best wishes for a happy, healthy and successful 2010 from all the staff at Pendle Vale College.

Yours sincerely

Mr S Wilson  
Headteacher  
Pendle Vale College

*'Think Pendle Vale, Think Achievement'*



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EXCELLENCE AND DIVERSITY

