

**Principal: Mr N. Lowry**

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Co-op Academy  
Stoke-on-Trent

19th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

## Academy closure to most students

Yesterday the government announced that they expect all schools across the UK to close to most pupils at the end of this week until further notice.

We will do all we can to stay open for the children of key workers (e.g. NHS staff, police, retail and others in frontline services) and children with certain needs.

We are waiting for the government to publish more information on what this means, but it would help us in the meantime if you could let us know if you think your child may fall into one of these categories. You can email [academy@cas.coop](mailto:academy@cas.coop) with your child's name, year group and some sense of how many days a week you'd be expecting them to be in school. We will also provide provision for anyone who we regard as vulnerable, we will contact you if we believe that you fall into this category.

I will then contact everyone who needs this support.

Our last day at school will be Friday 20th March.

We'll re-open fully as soon as we can and will let you know when this is by as soon as the picture becomes clear. Your child's learning is important to us, so we'll continue to help your child to learn.

What we'll continue doing while your child is at home:

- Teachers will still set work for all children via Google Classroom or via email. All the class codes are available on our website.
- This work will be set on a daily basis and should be completed on a daily basis in line with a student's normal timetable.
- Our expectations are still as high as ever and we expect the best work that each individual can do.
- All parents can still contact the school in the normal way via email on [academy@cas.coop](mailto:academy@cas.coop) and we will send this to the most appropriate person.
- If your child usually receives free school meals we will also be in touch with more information about how we will continue to provide this, with support from a scheme that the government has just announced.

**Today, (19th March) will be the last day in the academy for Years 7 and 11 until further notice. Tomorrow (20th March) we will be open to Years 8,9 and 10 only. It is important that as long as your child is well that they attend tomorrow as they will have to take books and equipment home.**

**The government has announced that GCSEs exams have been cancelled. We do not know yet exactly how grades will be awarded, but we will let you know as soon as we hear.**

This is as much as we know right now. I have no doubt that as our staff begin to adapt to supporting your child remotely, we'll be sending out more updates via Parentmail and text. I understand that this latest news will have an impact on you and your family and it's far from ideal, but we'll continue to keep in touch with any updates as the situation develops.

If you want to get in touch to share any concerns, please don't hesitate to do so via [academy@cas.coop](mailto:academy@cas.coop). I would love to be able to tell you how long this present situation will last

And remember: if you or your child feels ill and you want to know what to do next, please use NHS 111 online.

Thank you again for your continued support, and we will be in touch with more information when we can.

Yours sincerely

Mr N Lowry  
Principal