

**Headteacher** Mr S. Richardson

Westport Road  
Stoke-on-Trent  
Staffordshire  
ST6 4LD



Co-op Academy  
Stoke-on-Trent

## Message from the New Headteacher

Dear Parents & Carers,

I hope you and your families are safe and well.

I am delighted to be writing to you at the end of my first week as Headteacher of Co-op Academy Stoke on Trent. It's a great privilege to have the opportunity to lead this excellent Academy and I am excited to build on Mr Lowry's legacy. I know what a unique and special place our Academy is having served here as Vice Principal since 2018. It's easy to say, of course, and all headteachers are rightly proud of the schools that they lead. However, when you spend time with our inspiring young people, and the fantastically talented staff who are so committed to helping them to achieve their potential, you very quickly realise what a great place our Academy is!

As we all know, the last few months have been very difficult. However, we are beginning to see a road to recovery emerging. You will have heard in the media lots of discussion about schools returning for all students in September. We are awaiting specific guidance from the Government, but I can assure you that we are doing everything we can to deliver on that ambition. It is undoubtedly the case that students' learning and wellbeing is best served by being in the Academy. As you know, we have already started to welcome back some of our Year 10 students. It has been a real joy to see their enthusiasm to be back with us, working with their teachers, and getting on with the business of learning.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank you for your considerable efforts in supporting your children with their learning at home. I know from my own experience of having two children, each with their own school work, just how demanding homeschooling can be. However, our students have worked hard, and their engagement has, on the whole, been very pleasing. That is, of course, as a result of their dedication, but also your encouragement and we appreciate everything you have done to support your child; we do not underestimate the challenges that this period has brought for parents.

And now to the future. We are, as I said, expecting guidance from the government next week, and this will help us to plan for September. Once our plans are in place, I will contact you with more details. However, we are, as I said, working to the government's ambition that all children will be back in the Academy from September. Looking beyond Covid19 into the longer term, I am very excited about what the Academy can achieve. The partnership with parents will be crucial in terms of us helping all of our children achieve their goals.

**Headteacher** Mr S. Richardson

Westport Road  
Stoke-on-Trent  
Staffordshire  
ST6 4LD



Co-op Academy  
Stoke-on-Trent

I began my teaching career nearly sixteen years ago at a wonderful school in North Yorkshire. Ever since then I've worked in a variety of schools, and with some fantastic teachers and students, and from all of that experience, I've formed a really uncomplicated view of what makes a school successful: an uncompromising commitment to great teaching; crystal clear expectations about how we behave and treat each other with courtesy and humanity; and a relentless determination to empower every child to grow to become the adult they aspire to be. Those three principles will guide everything that I do as Headteacher at the Academy. I look forward to working with you to help your child realise their aspirations and achieve their goals.

Take care and stay safe.

Yours faithfully,

Mr S. Richardson  
Headteacher



@coopacademy



/coopacademy

