

To Parents and Carers of all Students

19th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Academy Closure due to Coronavirus

As you will be aware, the Government has announced that all schools in the UK will close on Friday 20th March 2020 until further notice except those which are required to remain open to cater for families of key workers and vulnerable children. St Anne's Academy intends to remain open to continue to provide education for these children and we are currently in the process of planning this provision.

For clarification, the Government announcement means that students in Years 9, 10, 11 and 13 should attend school as normal until the close of school on Friday 20th March 2020.

Students in Years 7 and 8 are already working from home.

Communication with Parents and Carers

We will keep you informed of any developments by posting information on the Academy website, text messages and Twitter and by letter, where possible.

As ever, please ensure that the Academy has your current mobile number in order to communicate effectively with you. To provide us with updated contact details, please call Reception on 0161 643 2643 or email admin@stannesacademy.org.uk.

Work for Students During Closure and Communication with Staff

Students in Years 11 and 13 will be issued with work packs to take home by Friday 20th March 2020, at the latest.

All students should refer to the Academy website from Monday 23rd March 2020 to access subject lesson materials, resources and guidance to be completed during the period of closure. Students in Years 7 and 8 already have work available to them via the Academy website as they have been working from home since Wednesday 18th March 2020.

All students are also encouraged to use subject related websites which they will be familiar with from school and BBC Bitesize as this is a useful learning resource.

Students will also be issued with an exercise book and pen in which to complete their work during the period of closure, however, when this book becomes full, any pad of lined paper which can be returned to school in due course will suffice.

Staff may also communicate with students through Academy email addresses.

As you will appreciate, this is a highly unusual situation for everyone and we seek your support in encouraging your child to continue to study at home during the period of school closure.

Year 11 GCSE and Year 13 A Level Examinations

The Government has announced that examinations will not take place nationally for all students in May and June. We have been advised that the Department for Education will work with examination boards to ensure that students receive the qualifications they need. Unfortunately, we have no further information at this stage but will keep you informed as soon as we receive details of how this will work.

We sympathise greatly with our students in Years 11 and 13 for the impact this situation is having on their year groups in particular. It is important to remember that this is a national situation. The Government has committed to making sure that students will not be at any detriment in future in terms of their qualifications and future plans because of these necessary actions and that their hard work will be properly rewarded.

We would encourage all our students to continue studying and learning as all education is greatly valued and will support them in life after the Academy, whether that be college, university or apprenticeships.

We know that some of our Year 11 students are worried that the Leavers' Prom may not take place. We commit to arranging a leaving event for our Year 11 students when it is possible for us to do so in future, even if this might not be possible until after the summer. We will also ensure that no student loses out financially in respect of payment for Prom tickets if the planned event cannot go ahead on 26th June 2020. We will also arrange a farewell event for our Year 13 students; hopefully this can be achieved before they move on to pastures new. It's important to the Academy that we do mark this important milestone in the lives of our students and, as soon as we are in a position to organise these events with certainty, we will let you know.

Contacting the Academy

All parents and carers will still be able to contact school by calling the main switchboard number 0161 643 2643 as we intend to remain open.

All parents and carers can also continue to email school on admin@stannesacademy.org.uk.

If you have specific concerns regarding the welfare or safety of any child at the Academy whether or not they are in school, please email safeguarding@stannesacademy.org.uk or call and ask for Mrs Beconsall, Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead, or Mrs Howard, Family Support Officer.

Please note that the safeguarding email address will be monitored during working hours only. If you have concerns that a child is at risk of immediate harm or in danger you should call the Police straight away on 999.

Return to School

We would like to reassure parents and carers that we will reopen the Academy to all students as soon as the Government allows us to do so. Please continue to visit the Academy website regularly for updates. The website also contains an up to date list of contact details for local community support organisations.

In the meantime, we hope that everyone within our Academy community remains safe and well.

Yours sincerely,



Mr C Heyes
Headteacher