

Dear Parent,

Re: Coronavirus update – school closure to most pupils

Following on from my last update, I'm now writing to let you know that we have now been instructed to close schools to almost all children after this Friday until further notice.

As advised by the government, we will do all we can to stay open for the children of key workers (e.g. NHS staff, police, delivery drivers, others in frontline services) and children with certain needs, for example, children with an EHCP and those who have an assigned social worker.

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 your School Office know if you think your child may fall into one of these categories and that you intend to use this service. We'll be in touch again once we are sure who this applies to, we expect this to be some time later today.

All other children will need to stay at home, so we ask that you do not send your child into school from Monday onwards.

Please note that this is a national closure – as you may have heard in the news – so while it is a challenging situation, we are not alone. We'll re-open fully as soon as we can and will let you know when this is by Weduc/email, but no doubt, there will be further government announcements.

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

Your child's learning is of course important to us, so we'll continue to help your child to learn.

As mentioned in my previous letter, we will be providing learning packs, initially for the remainder of this term and online optional learning resources. We will be planning with our teachers how this will look after the Easter break.

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. We are now awaiting details from the government.

This is as much as we know right now and we appreciate your continued patience as we deal with this ever-changing situation. We 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.

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,



Simon O'Keefe.
CEO
The Stour Academy Trust