



Headteacher: Mr N. Holder  
Chair of Governors: Mrs G. Hossack

✉ enquiries@farringdonca.net  
📍 Allendale Road, Farringdon  
Sunderland, SR3 3EL  
☎ 0191 917 1500

Dear Parents and Carers,

## Re: Coronavirus update – school closure to most pupils

Following on from my last update, I'm writing to let you know that **we have now been instructed to close the Academy 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 and children with certain needs. We are waiting for the government to publish more information on the definition of a key worker, but it would help us in the meantime if you could let us know, if you haven't done so already, if you feel you are a key worker who requires support. Please provide us with this information by either phone (0191 9171500) or email to [enquiries@farringdonca.net](mailto:enquiries@farringdonca.net). We'll be in touch again as soon as we have collated this information with further guidance.

**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. Our Academy will re-open as soon as we are instructed by the Secretary of State for Education and will keep you updated via our Academy website, text messaging service and social media platforms.

### How we will support your child at home

Your child's learning is of course of primary importance therefore we'll continue to help your child learn whilst they are at home.

Students have been given support all week whilst in school with special assemblies and demonstrations by staff on how they can access work from home. Guidance and support for you as parents and carers can also be found on our Academy website, on our **Home Study** page.

When at home, your child should be learning through the following means:

1. Following each subject's **Home Study Calendar** which helps students manage their time. Each calendar sets out our expectations for work completion and guidance on how to complete tasks.
  - These can be found on our [Home Study for Students site](#), in subject folders on Office 365.
2. Completing work which has been sent home in **work packs**.
3. Through visiting our **Academy website - Home Study page** for links to all online learning resources (Office 365: Home Study for Students site, GCSEPod, Class Charts). Our Home Study page contains all of the information and guidance you and your child/ children should require.
4. Through the regular use of [GCSEPod](#) and other online learning platforms. Please refer to our earlier letter on GCSEPod and how it will support students working from home.
5. Using [Class Charts](#) to view all work set for students by staff.

To support your child/ children in managing their studies, please encourage them to follow their normal school timetable and study their subjects in one-hour blocks.



If you have a child in Year 11, we have set up a '[Y11 Support Page](#)' to support them through this difficult time. Please visit this page regularly for updates. A copy of today's Special Assembly can be found on this page. In the meantime, we have advised students in today's assembly to begin/ continue to write their Personal Statements and create their Records of Achievement.

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.

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.

If you would like to get in touch, please don't hesitate to do so.

I wish you all well and hope that you and your families stay safe. We, as an Academy, will do everything we can to support you, your children and our community through this very difficult time.

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

Yours sincerely,

Mr N Holder

Headteacher