



# SIR THOMAS BOUGHEY ACADEMY

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents / Carers,

Further to the government's announcement that all schools in England will close for most students, as of Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2020 until further notice, I am writing to you with regards to arrangements for school provision and remote learning.

As you will have heard in the government's Coronavirus daily briefing delivered yesterday, schools will be closed to all but the children of key workers and vulnerable students. At this moment in time, the government has defined these groups as:

- those who have an EHCP;
- vulnerable students (those who have a social worker);
- the children of front-line workers. The government currently defines this as: NHS staff; police officers; supermarket delivery drivers. However, we are awaiting confirmation on the full list and we are as yet uncertain if the expectation is that we only offer places to students who have both parents, or just one parent who is a key worker. As soon as we know more, we will be in touch. I have delayed sending this communication as I was hoping the government would have provided clarity over their term 'key workers' but, as yet, this confirmation has not arrived.

We are asking for an urgent response from the parents of these key groups to let us know if you wish to send your child to school, or if you prefer to keep them off school. To this end, please can you respond to us, as soon as possible (by 11am tomorrow morning at the latest), using the email address [covid-19@stb.academy](mailto:covid-19@stb.academy) to let us know your wishes. It would be appreciated if you could email:

- Your child's name and form tutor
  - Your job title and employer (if you are a front-line worker)
  - If you are a sole parent
  - One of the following:
    - 1) My child will not attend school
    - 2) My child will continue to attend school
- Or 3) Please call me to discuss this choice.

If we don't hear from you, we will assume you do not wish to take up the offer of your son / daughter being in school.

Once we know numbers, we will confirm arrangements with you since we may decide to join with other academies in the Trust, to open just one site, or we may have to close this provision if we cannot safely staff our academies or ensure safe site management. For example, we may find ourselves in this position if staff illness rises further. Please also be aware that usual lessons will not be offered, but rather supervised access to computers and the internet in order to work on tasks set by class teachers, just as children working at home will experience. It is also possible that usual school transport may not be available if numbers are so small that the bus companies decide not to run the service.

---

STBA is proud to be part of the



**UNITED  
ENDEAVOUR  
TRUST**

Sir Thomas Boughey Academy  
Station Road  
Halmer End  
Stoke-on-Trent  
Staffordshire ST7 8AP



01782 729426



[office@stb.academy](mailto:office@stb.academy)



[www.stb.academy](http://www.stb.academy)



# SIR THOMAS BOUGHEY ACADEMY

If you elect not to send your child to school, and you are from a key worker group or are a parent of a vulnerable child, and you change your mind at a later date, please do contact us on [covid-19@stb.academy](mailto:covid-19@stb.academy).

**All other children will need to stay at home, so we ask that you do not send your child into school from Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020 onwards.**

Please note that this is a national closure – as you may have heard in the news – so whilst 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 using our communication channels of email, the school Gateway, Facebook and the website.

Your child's learning is of course important to us, so we will continue to help your child to learn. If it is that you do not fall into the eligibility criteria, as imposed by the government, then please be reassured that, as was mentioned in the letter dated Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March, work will be set for your son / daughter through Teams and email. Once your son / daughter has completed the work, please ensure it is returned to the teacher (either through Teams or email). It will then be marked, feedback given, and additional work will be provided. To accompany this letter there is also a Parent's Guide focused on remote learning with Office 365, which we hope you will find helpful.

Please remember that students in Years 10 and 11 also have access to GCSE Pod, which is an excellent resource, particularly for revision. All students can also access Hegarty maths, Bedrock (which aids vocabulary development) and Seneca Learning, which is a valuable on-line teaching resource. Students in Years 9 – 11 are also familiar with OnMaths, and they are to focus on topics identified as requiring development, as stated in their exercise book.

In some subjects, or where your son / daughter does not have access to a computer or the internet, work has already been provided in the form of take-away packs. If this is the case, instructions have been provided to your son / daughter as to the work to be completed.

If it is that the duration of the closure is lengthy, students will need to ensure they are adhering to daily learning in order that they cover all of the GCSE syllabus.

If you are a parent / carer of a student in Year 11, we understand the concerns you will be facing. Once we know more about the summer exam season, we will of course be in touch. For the moment, we advise that all preparation for examinations continues and, as such, staff are continuing to set revision materials for students to complete at home.

For those of you who have sons / daughters in Year 10, we have also had to cancel work experience placements. Understandably, many providers have contacted us this week to state that they are now unable to provide placements, therefore we have had to make the decision that work experience for Year 10 will not go ahead this year.

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.

---

*STBA is proud to be part of the*



**UNITED  
ENDEAVOUR  
TRUST**

Sir Thomas Boughey Academy  
Station Road  
Halmer End  
Stoke-on-Trent  
Staffordshire ST7 8AP



01782 729426



office@stb.academy



www.stb.academy



# SIR THOMAS BOUGHEY ACADEMY

This is as much as we know at this moment in time 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 will 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 your child's House Leader in the first instance. Just as a reminder, their email addresses are as follows:

Fire: [n.bailey@stb.academy](mailto:n.bailey@stb.academy)

Earth: [l.holloway@stb.academy](mailto:l.holloway@stb.academy)

Water: [l.sage@stb.academy](mailto:l.sage@stb.academy)

Air: [r.stevenson@stb.academy](mailto:r.stevenson@stb.academy)

Again, as mentioned in the letter distributed on Monday, as we receive new information, we will continue to communicate with you through emails, the school Gateway, Facebook and the website.

Because the duration of the closure is not yet confirmed, we are currently unable to provide an outline of Easter holiday revision for current Year 11 students. Please rest assured that if we are able to open, we will do.

However, as I am sure you will agree, the safety and wellbeing of our community must be of absolute priority.

To continue to support the wellbeing of our students, I would like to reassure you that if Attend are currently working with you, that support will continue in the form of safe and well checks at your home.

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

I would like to thank all parents / carers for your support over the last week, and for your words of encouragement. I would also like to thank the fabulous team of staff that we are fortunate to have at Sir Thomas Boughey for rising to the challenge of working incredibly productively in these unprecedented circumstances.

Stay safe and please look after each other.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Jane Hingley

---

STBA is proud to be part of the



Sir Thomas Boughey Academy  
Station Road  
Halmer End  
Stoke-on-Trent  
Staffordshire ST7 8AP



01782 729426



office@stb.academy



www.stb.academy