



The Astley Cooper School

Part of the East Dacorum Co-operative Learning Trust

19 March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Coronavirus (Covid-19)

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Headteacher: Edward Gaynor

Following last night's announcement from the Government, you will be aware that the GCSE, BTEC and A Level examinations in May and June have been cancelled. We had an assembly with Year 11 and Year 13 this morning during which we informed them of this drastic news. Currently, our understanding is that Year 11 and Year 13 students' results will be based on teacher assessment and predicted grades. This morning we told the students to keep any work they have done including mock examination papers, coursework or any exercise books. Year 11 do not have to attend school tomorrow but are welcome to come in if they wish. **There will be no further formal lessons for Year 11 and Year 13 after Easter.**

The school will close at 3.15 on Friday 20 March until further notice. However, we will be open for students whose parents are key workers – in the NHS, police, care home staff, fire service, teachers and delivery drivers – and for all vulnerable students: any student with an EHCP, Looked After Children, or those with a Social Worker. If your child is eligible to attend under these categories, please contact their relevant Head of Year today to let us know that you will be sending your child in next week.

We will be open from Monday 23 March at 8.30. Children should come to school in full uniform, sign in at the attendance office and go to the canteen where a light breakfast will be provided. The majority of staff will be in school over the next two weeks and there will be timetabled lessons for the children who are here. These lessons will be in mixed age groups and will be different to their normal curriculum. There will be full canteen facilities at break and lunchtime and school will finish at 3.15.

For the families of children who are eligible for free school meals, Tesco vouchers to cover two weeks' provision will be posted today. For children who are not in school, work will be available as outlined in Mrs Rourke's letter.

I will update you regularly over the next couple of weeks and let you know of any changes to these arrangements. We appreciate that we are living in extraordinary times and wish to support you as fully as we can. Please feel free to contact us.

On behalf of all my colleagues, I wish you and your family well.

Yours sincerely

Edward Gaynor
Headteacher

