



Astrea Academy Sheffield
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Principal: Mrs Kim Wilson

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AstreaAcademySheffield

20th March 2020

Dear Parent / Carer,

Academy Closure

Based on the most recent government advice with regards to Covid-19, we are fully closing the school to pupils from **Friday 20th March 2020**.

Y7 & 8 Pupils – closure will be at 2.00pm.
Nursery/Reception/Year1 – closure will be at 3.15pm.

There will be no after school clubs or detentions on this day.

At present, we do not know when the academy will be open and operating as normal, but we are working on the assumption that it may be closed for some time. We will, of course, keep you updated.

The date and time of the re-opening of the school, and regular updates to parents, will be communicated using the following methods:

- ★ Text message
- ★ Messages through the Astrea App
- ★ The academy website astreasheffield.org
- ★ The academy Twitter account @AstreaAcadSheff
- ★ The academy Facebook account @AstreaAcadSheff
- ★ The academy Instagram page @astreaacademysheffield

From **Monday 23rd March 2020** onwards, there may be no academy staff on site. To communicate with the academy, please do so by text message on the usual number, or by emailing info@astreasheffield.org. We will endeavour to respond to queries as best we can.

From Monday 23rd, all schools are CLOSED **except for children or key workers and vulnerable children**.

If you are a parent/carer and are a **key worker listed below**, your child may come to school unless you have to isolate yourselves as a household. Otherwise, your child should, therefore, stay at home with you unless he or she is deemed to be vulnerable or has an EHCP. This is because the purpose of the Government's policy is to reduce social interactions – staying at home is one of the most effective ways of doing this. A definitive list of key workers is listed below:

Key Worker Sector

Health and social care

This includes but is not limited to doctors, nurses, midwives, paramedics, social workers, care workers, and other frontline health and social care staff including volunteers; the support and specialist staff required to maintain the UK's health and social care sector; those working as part of the health and social care supply chain, including producers and distributors of medicines and medical and personal protective equipment.

Key Worker Sector
Education and childcare This includes nursery and teaching staff, social workers and those specialist education professionals who must remain active during the COVID-19 response to deliver this approach.
Key public services This includes those essential to the running of the justice system, religious staff, charities and workers delivering key frontline services, those responsible for the management of the deceased, and journalists and broadcasters who are providing public service broadcasting.
Local and national government This only includes those administrative occupations essential to the effective delivery of the COVID-19 response or delivering essential public services such as the payment of benefits, including in government agencies and arm's length bodies.
Food and other necessary goods This includes those involved in food production, processing, distribution, sale and delivery as well as those essential to the provision of other key goods (for example hygienic and veterinary medicines).
Public safety and national security This includes police and support staff, Ministry of Defence civilians, contractor and armed forces personnel (those critical to the delivery of key defence and national security outputs and essential to the response to the COVID-19 pandemic), fire and rescue service employees (including support staff), National Crime Agency staff, those maintaining border security, prison and probation staff and other national security roles, including those overseas.
Transport This includes those who will keep the air, water, road and rail passenger and freight transport modes operating during the COVID-19 response, including those working on transport systems through which supply chains pass.
Utilities, communication and financial services This includes staff needed for essential financial services provision (including but not limited to workers in banks, building societies and financial market infrastructure), the oil, gas, electricity and water sectors (including sewerage), information technology and data infrastructure sector and primary industry supplies to continue during the COVID-19 response, as well as key staff working in the civil nuclear, chemicals, telecommunications (including but not limited to network operations, field engineering, call centre staff, IT and data infrastructure, 999 and 111 critical services), postal services and delivery, payments providers and waste disposal sectors.

If your child is attending the academy in line with government guidelines above, they must do so from Monday 23rd March ensuring they attend school AT THE NORMAL TIME and should not be late. Pupils do not need to wear uniform. Pupils are to enter via the top entrance of the Pre Prep Building and a member of staff will be there to meet your child. Your child will be catered for however, if they wish to bring a packed lunch this is fine to do so.

The Secretary of State for Education has also asked that schools remain open in some capacity during the Easter break for these children so that designated key workers can continue to fulfil their roles. We will give details of this provision to those families over the next few days.

Pupils' Home Learning

In order to limit the impact to your child's education, in line with government advice, we have provided details of the work that we are expecting pupils to complete at home. This information can be found overleaf. Pupils who are in the school building on Friday 19th March have been handed a workbook, for pupils who are absent, we will be posting them. This workbook is also available on the academy website.

This work is **COMPULSORY**. Please do not return it to the academy whilst we are closed, as there is not a facility for verbal / written feedback until pupils return to the academy.

We are expecting pupils to complete work every day of the week. However, we are not expecting parents or carers to take on the role of teachers during this time. Staff at the academy have worked hard to provide work books that pupils should be able to complete on their own so the only thing that parents and carers need to do is make sure that their children complete some work every day.

For children in Pre-Prep/Prep

The pack of work provided includes a wide range of activities that can be completed over the closure period. There is also a list of great, free websites that you can use if you have the technology available. Do not worry that you have to spend many hours per day completing the tasks; they are there for support and to keep learning going in the home in whatever time you may have available. Please do read as much as you can with your child and remember that simply being with your child, talking, singing, having fun and taking part in household activities are all wonderful learning experiences and very important for children's well-being.

For children in Secondary

We recommend providing children with a guide or timetable of what you expect them to complete throughout the day. We are also keen that parents and carers ensure that children are reading for at least 20 minutes every day. It is also worth considering day-to-day activities which would help children to learn a lot, such as: cooking and following recipes, watching or reading the news, helping with household budgets and planting and growing food. The academy also has access to a number of fantastic online platforms which we will expect pupils to continue using to carry on with their learning. These include: Class Charts, Educake, Accelerated Reader, Hegarty Maths and Times Table Rock Stars.

For children with special educational needs

If you are a parent or carer of a child with a special educational need we know that this may be causing additional concerns for your child and family. Your child may be finding it difficult to understand what they are hearing and seeing in the media and it's understandable that your child may be feeling overwhelmed. It is important for their well-being that you continue to have discussions to help them understand and cope with the situation. We understand that as parents/carers you may also be feeling concerned about supporting your child's education in the coming weeks. We want to reassure you that we are not expecting you to deliver home education as an expert. Your child will benefit greatly if you guide them through the independent tasks or online resources that staff have provided.

Free School Meals

If your child is eligible for free school meals, we will be providing a service for them. We are seeking clarification from the Government in terms of how logistically we do this and we will be in touch as soon as possible to inform you how you access this provision for your child.

It is with an extremely heavy heart that we are closing our gates today. The days and weeks ahead are likely to be challenging for all of us and even though we are physically closed, we will endeavor to help any member of our Astrea family who is in need. Please do not hesitate to contact us via text message or by emailing info@astreasheffield.org if there is anything that we can do to support your family during this time.

Yours sincerely,



Kim Wilson | **Executive Principal**

All pupils in the primary and secondary phase have been provided with a work book which includes work from all of their subjects. Below are the tasks that their teachers would like them to complete and a guide as to how long they should spend on each task.

Work		Equipment needed
Primary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Complete the work pack provided. - Read with parents for 1 hour per day. - If you have the internet, access the learning games that we have suggested in the work pack. 	Work book Pencils Paper
English	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Silent reading – 30 minutes per day - Revise from your knowledge organiser – 10 minutes per day - Write a 1-page story (visit www.pobble365.com for inspiration) – 30 minutes per day - Make a revision poster for A Midsummer Night’s Dream (Y7) or WW1 poetry (Y8) – Extra 	A reading book Knowledge organiser Lined paper Plain paper
Maths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - TT Rockstars – 15 minutes per day - 1x Hegarty mathematics – 30 minutes per day - Revise from knowledge organiser and revision guides – 15 minutes per day 	Knowledge organisers
Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Complete 10 random questions on educake.co.uk using your details in your planner to login – 15 minutes per day. - Complete any 6 tasks from the sheets provided. Pick tasks from different topics – 30 minutes per day. 	Access to https://www.educake.co.uk/ Knowledge organisers Paper
Spanish	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Revise from your knowledge organisers – 1 hour. Revise using one of the following: - Design a revision poster - Produce revision notes (without copying) - Use ICT to make a revision video or PowerPoint - Practice written and spoken answers to the questions on each of the knowledge organisers. 	Paper Knowledge organisers Worksheets
PE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Silent reading of Methods of training fact sheet – 20 minutes per day - Revise from your knowledge organiser – 10 minutes per day - Online fitness quiz – 30 minutes to complete - Write a 1-page fact file on a specific sporting athlete about the method of training they would use – 1 hour to complete - Design a weekly training program for an athlete of your choice – 1 hour to complete - Make a revision poster for Fitness – 1 hour to complete 	Method of training article Knowledge organiser Computer Lined Paper Plain paper
STARS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Silent reading of Health education fact sheets – 20 minutes per day - Revise from your knowledge organiser – 10 minutes per day - Online Health Education quiz – 30 minutes to complete - Complete the worksheets regarding health education – 1 hour to complete - Design a weekly plan based on a healthy active lifestyle to include, diet, sleep, physical activity etc – 1 hour to complete - Make a revision poster for Health Education – 1 hour to complete 	Health Education fact sheets Your knowledge organiser Computer Worksheets Plain paper
IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Visit and work though the following website: https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z8mtsbk - Work through one whole topic per week – 1-2 hours per topic. - Spend 15 minutes completing the quiz at the end of each topic. 	Internet Access
Art	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Complete an artist study page for each of the Pop Artists in your booklet – 2-3 hours - Choose your favourite Pop Artist and design a fizzy drinks can based on their work 1-2 hours. - Complete the Roy Lichtenstein painting analysis sheet – 2 hours. - Pick a celebrity of your choosing. On a sheet of A4 draw them in the style of Andy Warhol. Use colour if you have it but if not please shade it – 2-3 hours. 	A pencil A sharpener A rubber If possible, coloured pencils or paints
Performing Arts	Work through the 5 Soap Opera activities in the Soap Opera booklet. Each Step - 1 hour. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Step One – Creating a Place - Step Two – Building the characters (create 4 in detail) - Step Three – Time for some Drama! - Step Four – Writing a Scene - Step Five – Shooting the Action 	Pen and Pencil
History	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Revise from your knowledge organisers – 1 hour. Revise using one of the following: - Design a revision poster - Produce revision notes (without copying) - Use ICT to make a revision video or PowerPoint. 	Knowledge organisers Lined paper Plain paper
Geography	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Revise from your knowledge organisers – 1 hour. Revise using one of the following: - Design a revision poster - Produce revision notes (without copying) - Use ICT to make a revision video or PowerPoint. 	Knowledge organisers Lined paper Plain paper