



19th March 2020 – 24th Rajab 1441

Assalaamu Alaikum – ‘Peace be upon you’

Dear parent,

Earlier today, you received a letter from the Chief Executive of Star Academies, informing you that all schools will be closed from **Friday 20th March 2020** for the foreseeable future. We do not know how long the period of closure will continue. This drastic decision has been made by the Government to try and halt the spread of coronavirus.

I know that the closure of the school will cause you and your children considerable disappointment and anxiety. I am writing to inform you of the steps that we are taking to ensure that we support your children’s education and wellbeing.

All pupils who are not self-isolating or ill should attend school tomorrow. They will receive important information, guidance and materials to support their studies. We will ensure that any pupils who are absent also receive these materials.

Pupils are expected to continue with their studies while they are at home. Please note the following:

- Please note that pupils in all year groups should start to use their study packs on **Monday 23rd March 2020**.
- Pupils in Year 6 will not be sitting end of Key Stage 2 SATs this year. It is essential that they continue studying so that they are well prepared to transfer to secondary school.

Work for children is accessible from the following platforms:

- Homework packs have been distributed to children to complete at home.
- Purple Mash homework will be set, for children, online (children have been given usernames & passwords)
- School website on <https://www.olivesmallheath.com/education/curriculum/> and select the relevant Key Stage groups to access.
- BBC Bite Size at <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/primary>
- Keep an eye out on the school website, <https://www.olivesmallheath.com/> for the latest updates as well as our Twitter page <https://twitter.com/OliveSmallHeath>

The school is fully committed to supporting the Government’s drive to support our community. Vulnerable pupils will be invited to attend school, as will children of key workers. If you believe that you are a key worker (as defined by the Government) and you require your child to be supervised, please contact the school by emailing keyworkers@olivesmallheath.staracademies.org by **4pm tomorrow (Friday 20th March 2020)** to indicate that you wish your child to attend school. Provision for vulnerable children and children of key workers will commence on **Monday 23rd March 2020** and will continue during term-time and during the Easter school holiday period. Initially this will be provided on our school site, but the Trust is also working on a hub



model that may involve pupils being supervised at another local school in the future. We will keep you informed of arrangements in good time.

We will be providing vouchers for pupils who are entitled to receive free school meals. We will advise you separately about how vouchers will be distributed.

We will continue to keep you informed of developments. If you have any concerns or queries, please contact the school via email, keyworkers@olivesmallheath.staracademies.org. To report any safeguarding concerns please call this number **07470793890**. We will respond as soon as possible. Thank you for your continued support during this difficult time. We really appreciate it. I hope that you and your family remain well.

Yours sincerely,



Shawkat Chowdhury

Principal