



17.05/2021

Dear Parents/Carers

**Re: Closure of St James Academy for Year 7 from Tuesday 18th May**

This letter is to inform you that we have had a number of confirmed cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) in year 7. The academy has acted swiftly to 'track and trace' all learners and staff that have had direct or close contact with the confirmed cases.

As a result of these circumstances, regrettably, St James Academy will be closing temporarily for year 7 from today.

The decision to close the academy has been made in conjunction with Dudley Academies Trust Board of Trustees.

**I will contact you later this week with our planned reopening date for Year 7.**

The decision to close the academy for year 7 has not been made lightly. We take the health and safety of our learners and staff very seriously and therefore closing the academy is a necessary precautionary measure to prevent further spread of COVID-19 within our academy and the year group. We understand that you may find this situation concerning but we are continuing to monitor the situation and are working closely with our local health protection team.

Please see the information below on how to support your child to stay safe and to ensure that they can access the academy's distance learning lessons and resources. If you need any additional help from the academy in the interim, please do not hesitate to contact us as below:

Helpline email: [general@stjamesacademy.org.uk](mailto:general@stjamesacademy.org.uk)

Safeguarding email: [safeguarding-help@stjamesacademy.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding-help@stjamesacademy.org.uk)

If you are a parent or carer and have an urgent safeguarding concern, please contact Mr Paul Townsend, Senior Inclusion Officer at Dudley Academies Trust. You can contact Mr Townsend via emailing [ptownsend@stjamesacademy.org.uk](mailto:ptownsend@stjamesacademy.org.uk) or telephoning 07824 583068.

As always, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support at this challenging time.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Ian Moore'.

Mr I Moore  
Principal



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