

**North East Learning Trust** Traynor House, Traynor Way, Whitehouse Business Park, Peterlee, SR8 2RU

> 0191 563 4190 enquiries@nelt.co.uk www.nelt.co.uk

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Dear parents and carers

Yesterday evening the Prime Minister and the Secretary of State for Education announced that as of this Friday, 20th March, all schools in England would close until further notice. I'm sure most people will have many questions and whilst we do not have all of the answers at the moment, we will keep you as updated as soon as we receive fresh information and guidance.

In line with the announcement we will close all our Trust schools at the end of the day on Friday for the majority of the children and young people in our care. We do not, as yet, know when we will re-open.

We have been planning for this eventuality and will provide you with details of how we will continue to provide education to your children in the next day or so.

In line with the announcement, our schools will only remain open for vulnerable pupils and the children of key workers. The definition of 'key workers' has not as yet been confirmed, but is likely to include, amongst others, healthcare workers, emergency service personnel and food distribution workers.

Examinations in all schools have also been cancelled. We understand the disappointment this will have caused students as they looked forward to reaping the benefit of their hard work. The government has assured us that students will receive their grades and will not be disadvantaged in any way as they move on to the next phases of their education and lives. As soon as we understand how this will take place, we will let you know.

Thank you once again for your support in this unprecedented situation. I will write to you again as we receive further information and guidance.

Yours sincerely,

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Lesley Powell CEO