



ACADEMY OF DOVER

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Dear Academy of Dover Families,

Governor Carney has instructed that all schools are closed to students until May 15th. This does not mean that we are stopping what we do; it just means that we are not able to do it at our Academy and we need to be a bit more creative in our ways of teaching our children.

Prior to our closure, we were able to prepare three weeks' worth of learning packets for each of our students. Our educators are making every attempt to reach out and support each of our students in working on these packets of learning. Within each packet, the teachers provided multiple ways to get in touch with them to include Class Dojo, a cell phone number, their email, and they have also created Facebook pages for each grade level. All of this information can be found on our Academy webpage: AodCharter.org

We are here to support you and your child. We realize this is challenging for everyone, and we are doing all we can to continue supporting our Academy Families in every way possible.

Now that we know that the closure will last beyond the three-week packets that were sent home, our educators are busy creating additional learning opportunities that can be done remotely for all of our students. We will continue keeping you updated.

We also realize that not all families have access to technology, which is why we are using the telephone in addition to our online learning methods. Please reach out to us to let us know any way we can continue to support you—we strive to remain the village that supports our families!

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to evolve daily. The need for a Stay-At-Home order was essential to keep people separate during this time. For Delaware, our Stay-At-Home order is a balance between the health & safety of our citizens and the need for an economy that is still moving forward and providing for our needs.

This can be an uncertain time for us as adults, but very much for our children. The CDC has issued [new guidance for Children and Coronavirus](#) that is helpful.

While there is more in the guidance on the site, this piece could be most helpful for you during this time of remote learning:

[Help children continue learning](#)

Stay in touch with your child's school.

- Many schools are adapting in-person lessons to online or virtual learning. Review assignments from the school, and help your child establish a reasonable pace for completing the work. You may need to assist your child with turning on devices, reading instructions, and typing answers.
- Communicate challenges to your school. If you face technology or connectivity issues, or if your child is having a hard time completing assignments, let the school know.

Create a schedule and routine for learning at home, *but remain flexible.*

- Have consistent bedtimes and get up at the same time, Monday through Friday.
- Structure the day for learning, free time, healthy meals and snacks, and physical activity.
- Allow flexibility in the schedule—it's okay to adapt based on your day.

Consider the needs and adjustment required for your child's age group.

- The transition to being at home will be different for preschoolers, K-5, middle school students, and high school students. Talk to your child about expectations and how they are adjusting to being at home versus at school.
- Consider ways your child can stay connected with their friends without spending time in person.

Look for ways to make learning fun.

- Have hands-on activities, like puzzles, painting, drawing, and making things.
- Independent play can also be used in place of structured learning. Encourage children to build a fort from sheets or practice counting by stacking blocks.
- Practice handwriting and grammar by writing letters to family members. This is a great way to connect and limit face-to-face contact.
- Start a journal with your child to document this time and discuss the shared experience.
- Use audiobooks or see if your local library is hosting virtual or live-streamed reading events.

Look for more information in the coming days from us. As always, we are grateful for your partnership in the education of your children.

Thank you,

Michele Marinucci
Head of School
Academy of Dover