

3rd March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you will know, the Prime Minister has announced that schools will re-open on Monday 8th March to all children, and we could not be more excited to welcome your children back to our schools.

Whilst we have endured the lockdown and the obstacles that have arisen, thanks to you as parents and our teachers and school staff, the children have kept learning. Our remote learning programme would not have worked without the tremendous and heroic effort of you, our parents.

We know that home schooling your children is difficult. Many parents have been trying to do this whilst looking after younger siblings, your own work commitments, caring for grandparents and so on. However, your approach and perseverance has been astounding and we applied you.

Whilst we all can't wait for the children to be back in school, we know that many of you have worries and concerns too. We want to reassure you that we will be doing everything we can to make our academies as safe as possible and we will continue to follow all Government guidelines that we have now become accustomed to as part of school life.

Catching up on lost learning will of course be important. But even more important is ensuring that your children settle back in well, and that we focus on their wellbeing in the first instance as they adjust to the daily routine of being back in school. Some children will have had a very difficult time during lockdown and the staff within our schools will be on hand to support in any way that they can. The next few weeks may once again, test us. But we have total confidence in your children – even though we have had to be physically distant, COVID has bound us even more tightly together and we look forward to building on those bonds.

Thank you again for all your hard work in ensuring that your children have had the best possible learning experience over the past few weeks and months.

Warm regards

Sir Steve Lancashire, CEO

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Cathie Paine, DCEO

Katherine Alexander, COO