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'Innovative Education – Transforming Lives'

13th May 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

I am just writing to update you on the announcement that was made by the Government in relation to schools re-opening from the 1st June 2020. They have outlined some year groups as priority year groups for schools to welcome back. The response to this decision has been very mixed across the country, some parents will feel anxious about sending their child to school during these unprecedented times and others are eager for them to return to some form of normality.

Within our Trust, we are putting in place plans to ensure that pupils and staff can return in the safest way possible. The Government has stated that it is for individual Trusts and schools to manage how this can practically be achieved. In the first instance:

- We will be sending out a survey in the next week to gain information about the numbers of parents with children in the priority year groups who want to send their child/ren to school so we can plan out the location of where pupils and staff will be.

As you may have read, the Government has requested that pupils are in lower group sizes (no more than 15) in order to implement social distancing measures. We will also have to plan times when the pupils enter the academies, times when they exit the academies as well as staggered breaks and lunchtimes. The Government are calling this the 'new normal.' All our academies will be running in a very different way to before and therefore we need the support of our parents in order to do this.

We will also be reviewing how we can integrate the pupils in the safest way so that we can test out the Health & Safety measures to ensure that they are working in the way that has been planned. In order to do this, we are considering a phased approach to bringing in the year groups. This is so that we can adapt and change any procedures if they are not working.

As we conclude our plans, we will ensure that these are fully communicated to you with all the specific details. I want to assure you also, that we are working closely with the Local Authority, other schools in the local area and our Health & Safety Advisor in order to put these plans in place. I think it is also important for you as parents to raise any questions or concerns, therefore we will be organising parental forums in each academy to provide you with the opportunity to ask your questions or raise your concerns.

Again, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you once again for your support and ask that you continue to be patient and understanding during these unprecedented times.

 Yours sincerely



Beryce Nixon
CEO

John Blount
Chair of Directors

