

8th July 2021

Dear Parents,

As we move towards the end of the summer term and our minds turn towards the summer holidays, I thought I would write to you regarding transition arrangements for those children starting primary or secondary school in September.

Throughout the very difficult past 18 months, headteachers, teachers, parents and children have had to endure an extremely challenging time. Thank you to all the support you have provided for your schools and children in helping them deliver remote education. Thank you also for your understanding when dealing with the disappointments the restrictions of the pandemic have brought. It has been very challenging for all.

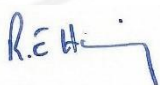
Throughout the global pandemic we have always followed the most recent government guidance and updates. With the rapid rise in new cases of the Delta variant, the Department for Education recently wrote to all schools, colleges and childcare providers with their most recent Contingency Framework. The guidance provides the steps all providers need to take in order to manage local outbreaks of Covid-19 and responding to variants of concern.

The steps outlined in the June Contingency Framework are supported by Public Health England and local Health Protection Teams. The government guidance lays out clearly that 'open days, transition or taster days, parental attendance in settings and performances in setting' should be limited. I understand how frustrating and disappointing this is, but I want to stress that we will continue to follow the government guidelines for the remainder of this term. Headteachers may make exceptions in cases where specific educational needs of a child need to be met. This might be if a child has a particular need which requires specialist equipment or apparatus.

The government guidance is issued to all providers and it is our duty to implement it and ensure our children and staff can remain as safe as possible. Please could I ask that parents bare this in mind if writing to their child's school about the lack of transition arrangements or ability to attend open days etc. All schools will be in touch regarding enhanced transition arrangements being put in place for September.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. Let's hope the remainder of the term goes smoothly and we see a win for England on Sunday evening.

Yours faithfully,



Rob Haring
CEO