



**WISE**  
ACADEMIES  
We Inspire Success and Excellence

To all parents / carers

8<sup>th</sup> July 2020

Dear parent / carer

#### RETURN OF PUPILS IN AUTUMN TERM

As you will probably have heard through news media, all schools will be reopening to all pupils after the forthcoming summer holiday break. Government guidance has now been issued and I felt it important to communicate with parents as soon as possible to explain arrangements and provide some information about how our academies will be managing the safe return of children to all of our sites.

The safety of our children and staff remains the main priority in everything that we do. Please be assured that we are already formulating our plans for September for the return of all pupils, in order to make certain that we have everything in place for the autumn term and that academies are complying with the official guidance.

Arrangements that we put in place are highly site specific taking account of a robust risk assessment. Amongst the protective measures in place there will be increased hand-washing and enhanced cleaning regimes throughout the school day whilst minimising contact and mixing by keeping children and staff in consistent groups (often referred to as bubbles).

Government guidance states that academies must engage with the NHS Test and Trace process. Further information will be provided by the individual academies in relation to the NHS Test and Trace process, in summary the guidance requires that parents/carers understand that they will need to be ready and willing to:

- book a test if they are displaying symptoms. Staff and pupils must not come into the school if they have symptoms, and must be sent home to self-isolate if they develop them in school. All children can be tested, including children under 5, but children aged 11 and under will need to be helped by their parents/carers if using a home testing kit
- provide details of anyone they have been in close contact with if they were to test positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) or if asked by NHS Test and Trace
- self-isolate if they have been in close contact with someone who develops coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms or someone who tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19)

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The government has reinstated the requirement that all pupils attend school as normal from September 2020. Schools are required to monitor attendance in the same way that they have previously done. I recognise that some parents and pupils may feel anxious about coming back to school after such a long time at home. Should you have any concerns in relation to your child returning to school in September, please contact your academy staff who will be able to provide reassurances about all of the measures that are being put into place to support your child back into school.

Academies will communicate directly with parents regarding any reorganisation of provision to facilitate the safe return of all our children. This will include any changes to the structure of the school day and, where applicable, extra-curricular activities such as breakfast clubs and after-school sessions.

We very much look forward to welcoming all of our pupils back in September. I have every confidence that your children will enjoy their return to school and will once again benefit from the social and academic benefits of being back in the school environment.

Until then I hope that you have an enjoyable summer break.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Z E Carr', written in dark ink.

Mrs Z E Carr O.B.E.  
CEO of WISE Academies