



14th October 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

As we come to the end of the first half term, I would like to share with you a little of what has been happening within our Academies since we returned in September.

I have visited all academies throughout this half term and I am so impressed with how well children have transitioned into their new school year, moving classes can sometimes be a worrying time, (not only for our pupils but parents too). I am so proud of our pupils, they are a credit to you and our Trust! It has been wonderful to see them receiving awards at our Proud Thursday events.

We have continued with developing our Trust Wide Network Groups, where our teachers and specific leads come together to share good practice and develop new skills. I have received some great feedback on how this has been impacting across the Trust.

Academies have also been busy developing a new writing curriculum and also looking at a pedagogical approach to our teaching to further develop our teaching styles and teaching practice. Last week, academies took part in a whole trust training day 'A Curriculum of Hope', and we were extremely lucky to welcome guest speaker, Dr Debra Kidd. This was an inspiring event for us as all as Debra has a breadth of experience and understanding of all things educational from national policy level to what happens in the classroom.

Covid-19

As we are returning to some form of normality we are aware that local Covid rates in Doncaster are still high therefore, we will continue to be vigilant within our academies, by:

- Updating risk assessments within our academies as needed
- Principals are still adhering to organisational plans outlining a cautious approach to the reducing of all restrictions. As always we will continue to monitor and steadily ease when these when we are able to do so against local data.
- All children are encouraged to wash their hands regularly throughout the day and all sanitation stations have remained within the academies and have become part of our normal procedures to raise hygiene awareness.
- Some academies still have staggered pick up and drop off times.
- Staff members are continuing to lateral flow test twice a week.



Exceed Learning Partnership

• EVERY CHILD • EVERY CHANCE • EVERY DAY •

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If your child is displaying symptoms, please do not send them to school and make arrangements for them to have a PCR test as soon as possible. Please contact the academy with the outcome of the test.

For updated guidance on self-isolation and what to do please follow the attached link.

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/self-isolation-and-treatment/when-to-self-isolate-and-what-to-do/>

Finally, I would like to thank you for your continued support to our academies and to the Trust. I hope that you all have a wonderful half term break, and look forward to seeing you when we return in November.

Yours sincerely

Beryce Nixon
CEO & National Leader of Education

John Blount
Chair of Directors