



Monday, 22nd June 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Transform Trust Wider School Opening

Across all Transform schools I am delighted to report we have seen a large increase in numbers of children returning during this extended opening phase. We have nearly 1,000 children now back in Transform schools each day and I see their smiles, hear their laughter and I know having children back has been an enormous tonic for all Transform staff. This is testament to your confidence in our schools, and reflects the huge amount of work in planning, communication and co-ordination that school staff have undertaken. Our schools may not look quite as we fondly remember them before lockdown, but we have shown through these efforts that school is a safe place for your children. This remains our first priority, as it always has from the outset.

At each stage during this pandemic I have communicated the Trust plans and the rationale behind them to you. I recognise at times this has been frustrating because there has been sometimes little to update or (due to external pressures beyond our control) we have had to change these plans at the last minute. I thank you for your patience and understanding. I also thank each and every one of you who has taken the trouble to contact us to praise our schools in these difficult times. It means a great deal.

Schools are now working hard to find a way to welcome all of our children back before the end of the school year. This may in some schools only be possible for a few days but we are determined to find a way to make this offer. We want to say hello, remind them what a great place their school is, and of course start to prepare them for their next year in school.

So..... to the next phase of extended opening:

- **Year 6** will move back to home learning on **Friday 3rd July** and will end their time in school with a Transform Celebration. This will be available to all Year 6 children via YouTube. We are determined that every Year 6 child will get a proper graduation and a cherished memory of their time in school.
- **Year 5** will be welcomed into school on **Monday 6th July** (effectively replacing the Year 6 children capacity).
- We would like to welcome back **Year 2, 3 and 4** during the last three weeks of term for a limited time – individual schools will be more specific with parents as to timings. Please be aware that this may be for just two or four days, and may also be dependent on new announcements on social distancing being made by Government.
- Schools who have not yet welcomed EYFS back may have to reduce their Year 1 provision for this to happen.

I believe the greater good for the wellbeing of every child is to enable them to spend some time back in the school before the end of the school year. We cannot yet predict what restrictions will have eased by September, and how “back to normal” our schools will be by then, but it is our aim to provide every child the opportunity to come to school before they break up for the summer. I ask once again for your continued patience and a little flexibility in helping to enable every child return briefly to school.

Yours sincerely,

Rebecca Meredith
CEO