



Overfields Primary School

Daisy Lane
Ormesby
Middlesbrough
TS7 9JF
Tel: 01642 314548

Head Teacher: Mrs T Watson

www.overfieldsprimary.co.uk

E-mail: overfieldsadmin@overfieldsprimary.org.uk

Dear Parents, Carers, Governors and Staff Members

During the period of the COVID-19 pandemic your Head teacher has been in regular contact with you regarding your school's response to the challenges that we have faced. Additionally, I have written to you from time to time, to explain how the Trust has helped support this response. This is the last of the updates that the Trust will send to you this academic year.

From next week, our schools will close to pupils, and our staff will begin their summer holidays, taking a well-earned break. Childcare remains available at Normanby Primary, and you have received separate information about this provision already.

The Trustees met last night, and Mr Elliot, the Chair of the Ironstone Academy Trust Board of Trustees, asked me to thank staff for their hard work during this period. From delivering food parcels, to welcoming into school new Nursery pupils they have worked with dedication and commitment, often prioritising their work with your children above their own families. I am deeply grateful to them.

Personally, I would specifically like to thank the leaders in each of our schools, including the Trust executive and Local Governing Board members, for the truly exceptional way in which they have stepped up to an unprecedented challenge.

Following a review by our Trustees, each school is publishing information on its website later today, regarding how it will manage the opening of the academy to all pupils in September. These documents and procedures will be reviewed should guidance from the Department for Education (DfE) change during the summer.

The DfE has amended several guidance documents with a banner that states: "From the beginning of the autumn term, the DfE will expect all pupils, in all year groups, to return to school full-time. Information on [what parents and carers need to know](#) about the opening of schools is available. It is vital for all children to return to school for their educational progress, for their wellbeing and for their wider development." The Trust agree that it is vital all pupils return in September, and we expect all children to return to School in the new academic year. We will work with all families to secure good attendance from the start of term.

The DfE has also amended [guidance](#) to help primary school children continue with their education.

We would all encourage our children to read regularly; this guidance [10 top tips to encourage children to read](#), has also just been published.

When we started to build the partnership of Schools that form Ironstone Academy Trust, we said that we would be stronger together, and support each other to provide the best education we can for all our pupils. In this time of COVID-19, we have endeavoured to do; I know some parents are disappointed that their children may not have returned to school this term, and that the usual joyous round of celebrations (especially for our wonderful Year 6 pupils) has been disrupted. We have however consistently sought to do the best we can with the time and resources available to us.

For the families who have experienced bereavement during this crisis, we extend our deepest sympathies.

It is a privilege to work within the Ironstone Trust group of Schools; I remain committed to supporting you through COVID-19 - and beyond into the new academic year; a fresh start that we are all looking forward to.

Yours Sincerely
Carl Faulkner, CEO IAT