

9 March 2021

Pathfinder Multi Academy Trust
Archbishop Holgate's School
Hull Road, York YO10 5ZA
T: 01904 411341
E: info@pmat.academy
W: www.pathfinderamat.co.uk

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome Back

I am delighted to be able to welcome back all students this week and I hope your child has enjoyed their first days back in school. It seems to have been a long time coming, but like all staff across the Trust, I couldn't be happier seeing children returning to our schools.

Like schools up and down the country, the ten Pathfinder schools have been open throughout this lockdown to support vulnerable and critical worker children as well delivering online learning to the majority of children isolating at home. As we look forward to the rest of the year and what we all hope is the last interruption to children's education, I would like to take a moment to reflect on what we have achieved as a community up to this point.

Firstly, I would like to thank you as parents and carers for your understanding and support for our schools. These have been, and will continue to be, challenging times for schools, delivering a full and rich curriculum alongside maintaining a safe learning and working environment for children and staff. Thank you also for your commitment and perseverance with home learning, we appreciate the challenges that this has presented at times.

Secondly, I would like to mention the extra-ordinary efforts that staff in all schools have made to support students, families and their colleagues. A lot has been asked of schools over the past 12 months and I am immensely proud of how staff have continually risen to the challenges we have faced often going above and beyond what is expected.

Throughout the development of the pandemic and the updates to government guidance, we have worked hard to make sure our schools remain as safe as possible. We have also endeavoured to keep parents and carers updated with the measures our schools and the Trust have been taking. We hope you have found the letters, parent guides and weekly newsletters we have sent out since last March both informative and reassuring.

As a community of ten schools serving more than 4,000 students, we have much to be proud of with our collective efforts over the past year. Our schools, with support from Pathfinder's Operations Team, have consistently been among the first to reopen to students at the earliest possible time. This was illustrated just last week with the fantastic community effort to mass test students at Archbishop Holgate's. Thanks to the parents, governors, trustees, members of the community and members of school and trust staff who volunteered to support the testing programme, students at the school were able to return to face to face teaching on Monday this week.

I am extremely excited (as are the rest of the staff across the Trust) about students being back in our schools and I can assure families that we will work tirelessly to ensure the rest of this academic year is as successful as possible.

Yours faithfully,



Andrew Daly
Chief Executive Officer

Our Partner Schools