

Friday January 29th, 2021

Dear parent/carer,

I hope this letter finds you and your loved ones to be safe and well.

On behalf of The Moorlands Primary Federation (TMPF) Multi-Academy Trust, we would like to thank you for the ongoing support of your school during this uncertain period of partial school closure.

As you know, the Prime Minister announced that schools would not fully re-open until 8th March at the earliest and that this date will be dependent upon a number of factors decided by the government. Therefore, our schools will continue to remain open only to those pupils who are classed as 'vulnerable' and also those whose parents/carers are deemed to be 'critical workers' who are unable to keep their child at home on that particular day. Of course, the restrictions bring some disappointment as we all prefer our children attending school, but we must follow the guidelines set by the government to each play our part in reducing the risk of this terrible virus and to keep our loved ones safe.

Across our Trust, in the first week of the new term I was exceptionally proud of each school's staff for adjusting their original plans at such short notice to offer daily 'live' sessions where learning is shared, work set, and users maintain healthy contact with one another. This regular contact with classmates is important for both continued learning and social interaction. Seeing their friends is extremely important to children, as is the structure of a school day, so please ensure your child/children attends all 'live' lessons and undertakes all remote learning. If you have any issues accessing 'live' lessons or remote learning, please let us know – we are always happy to help. I would like to thank you all for helping your child/children to attend the sessions and for the wonderful support you give, enabling them to complete their work at home.

If you need any help from your child's class teacher, you have a contact email address, and staff will be happy to respond between 09:00 and 16:30 (other than at lunch time and during staff meetings/training) during the school week. Please be aware that in addition to the 'live' lessons and when providing feedback, staff are also teaching and supporting children in school, amongst many other responsibilities. Therefore, the response may not always be immediate. Although staff may be in school beyond these times, we thank you for respecting these and avoiding emailing outside of this period, as our staff need to complete other tasks.

I would also like to thank you all for the many kind and supportive messages received. These really do uplift staff and are always appreciated. You may have seen in the news that school staff are now able to undertake self-administered Covid-19 tests. These tests are voluntary and for those wishing to participate, they will commence on Sunday 31st January. I hope you will agree; this measure will further improve your child's safety in school.

Although this is a challenging time for us all, we know that by supporting one another, following the guidelines on how to keep safe, and showing how much we care, we will get through this.

Please stay safe.

Mr J. M. Eccles
Executive Principal and CEO
The Moorlands Primary Federation

