

Members of the Trust:

Angel Oak Academy
Applegarth Academy
Beddington Park Academy
Benedict Academy
Breakwater Academy
Burfield Academy

David Livingstone Academy
La Fontaine Academy
Gonville Academy
Hawkes Farm Academy
Heathfield Academy
High Cliff Academy

Park Academy
Phoenix Academy
Tudor Academy
Turnham Academy
Westbridge Academy
White House Academy

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STEP CEO: Mr M Ducker OBE
STEP Deputy CEO: Mr P Glover

Tuesday 23rd February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

As I am sure that you are aware, yesterday the Government announced that from Monday 8th March, all primary school pupils will return to school.

Throughout the pandemic, STEP has used three core principles to guide decision making across the Trust – *safety*, *community* and *choice*. Ensuring the safety of children and staff has always been our top priority, alongside doing all we can to support the communities we serve; which has included respecting the individual context of each family and, therefore, giving parents as much choice as possible. Throughout the ongoing pandemic, all STEP Academies have abided by these principles, within the guidance set out by the Government.

With the reducing infection rates and use of testing, we are very much looking forward to all pupils returning to school. Whilst I am aware that this remains an anxious and challenging time, it is important that all children return. Please be assured that each Academy has completed a rigorous risk assessment to reflect the changes to pupils returning and we will continue to put safety first. In the unfortunate instance where a bubble has to close due to a positive case, your child's Academy will contact you, as before, and remote learning will be provided.

Over the coming few days, your child's Academy will send information detailing how the return will work. However, if you have any specific queries, please do not hesitate to contact the Academy directly.

Finally, I would like to thank you for your continued support throughout recent months. The many messages of support and encouragement have been greatly appreciated by the whole STEP team.

Yours sincerely,



MR M DUCKER
STEP CEO