



engage enrich excel academies

Queens Avenue, Wellesley, Aldershot, Hampshire, GU11 4AA · 01252 337911 ·
www.eeed.co.uk

July 2020

Dear Colleagues

I am writing to you to express my thanks for all your work over the past weeks. As a family of schools we have worked tirelessly to open our schools up to as many children as possible. Your relentless drive has been remarkable and it is humbling to see how you all put the pupils at the heart of your thinking.

Our communities are fortunate to have such positive, proactive and passionate professionals.

These times have been challenging both personally and professionally. When I spoke with some of you recently we discussed your anxiety and the anxiety of the children. We know that anxiety can cause stress and this is heightened when we fear or worry about things. The virus and lockdown has caused many of us to worry. A key question is how safe are our schools?

This question has been at the heart of our thinking, and we want to provide as safe an environment as possible. As I have previously said the wellbeing of the children and staff is a key focus. Due to the fabulous work all schools are doing we have adapted our systems and environments to make as safe as possible for children to return.

In the guidance for reopening from September, the government stated key protection measures that need to be in schools. I know that you have all been working with these protective measures for a number of weeks now, so much so that they are embedded, which is amazing – thank you.

We are in process of putting together our plans for September but the fantastic news is that we will be returning to as close to normal as possible. I know that, like me, you cannot wait to have **all** the children back at the same time! Yes we will have to adapt our curriculum but we will not just recover from this situation, we will **build back better!**

As a trust we are committed to evaluating what this period has taught us and what lessons we can take forward. After all, we love to teach and we love to learn. We will do this evaluation over the next year and of course update you on our findings.

There has been a lot of new terminology in schools, for example; ‘bubbles’ and ‘consistent groups’. I look forward to the day we just talk about classes and school communities – this day will come and we can continue to help to shape the minds of the next generation.

We must remember that we are role models and the language we use with our children will help us to build back better. It has been great hearing how positive you have all

Engage Enrich Excel Academies

T/A The Cambridge Primary School Queens Avenue Wellesley Aldershot GU11 4AA
Company Registration Number 9279884 (England and Wales)



engage enrich excel academies

Queens Avenue, Wellesley, Aldershot, Hampshire, GU11 4AA · 01252 337911 ·
www.eeed.co.uk

been. It is so important that we retain our positivity as many of our families will have found this period difficult.

We have had to deal with a multitude of HR issues and the guidance from HR has continued to evolve as we have learnt more about the virus. You will all be aware that from 1 August those who have been shielding will no longer be asked to shield which is positive as it provides any staff with a month before we start back to gain confidence venturing out.

We are expecting all staff, including those who are shielding, to return to work from 1st September. We have really missed those who are shielding and cannot wait to have you back.

There have been lots of discussions over summer holidays and particularly around holidays abroad. This is an area where the guidance is continually evolving with more countries being included in the 'air bridge' list.

If you had booked a holiday **prior to 22 March** and have to do a 14 day quarantine then this will be paid. If you booked a holiday **after this date** and have to quarantine this period will be unpaid. The good news is that there are a number of countries on the air bridge list so in most cases you will not need to quarantine.

We are continually assessing our staff capacity and need to ensure we can provide a service for our pupils to enable parents to go back to work. The HR guidance will continue to change and we will update you with any amendments prior to coming back to school.

At the heart of every head's decision making has been the pupils and staff and their decision making has been exceptional. I would like to thank them for their leadership, their passion and their determination to help build back their communities. A leader's job is not easy and we have had to make really difficult decisions but these decisions are easier when you have a committed and innovative team.

I do hope you all have a great summer break and enjoy time with friends and family. 2020 will be remembered for a number of challenges and whilst it will take time to build back better, our children are lucky to have you all as their inspiration!

Thank you for your resilience!

Thank you for your innovation and drive!

Thank you for putting every child at the centre of your thinking!

Engage Enrich Excel Academies

T/A The Cambridge Primary School Queens Avenue Wellesley Aldershot GU11 4AA
Company Registration Number 9279884 (England and Wales)

Thank you for your positivity!

Thank you all as key workers – your efforts have been remarkable!

As a profession, we are not always the best at accepting thanks but from the bottom of my heart, thank you!

The trustees would like to say a huge thank you to you all, they are impressed with all your efforts. Yes there will be further challenges but together we have shown that we can achieve anything we put our minds to!

I wish you all the very best and hope you and your families are safe and well.

Best wishes

Yours sincerely

David Harris



CEO, EEEA