

11 September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing on behalf of the Partnership to welcome you back and provide some updates in relation to the Trust. First and foremost, I would like to say a huge thank you to all families for your support and encouragement. Staff in schools have been hugely appreciative of your encouragement and our plans for the wider return of pupils to schools. Thank you.

I would like to extend an especially warm welcome to all families new to your child's school and families new to the Inspire Partnership. We are an education partnership of 9 schools working across Croydon, Greenwich and Medway who believe in the mission of transforming lives in partnership and collaboration. You can find out more information about the partnership from the website: <https://www.inspirepartnership.co.uk/>

You can also follow us on twitter using the link here: <https://twitter.com/InspireSELondon>
It is a great way to keep up abreast of all the news across the Trust.

On a linked point, it was wonderful to see children return to schools this week. It is a telling reminder that schools without children are not schools. It is the interaction and relationships between all of us that bind us together with common values.

That said, some of you may be aware that we did have to postpone the opening in one of our schools for some pupils. West Thornton Academy reported a confirmed Covid-19 positive test for a teacher which meant staff at the Rose Court Road site having to self-isolate. We took advice from Public Health England and the local authority who guided us through the decision-making process. I would like to reassure you that if any staff members have been identified as being in contact with anyone with a positive Covid-19 diagnosis, they will be asked to self-isolate for 14 days, as per the government regulations.

In terms of our Trust priorities this academic year, we have a number of core areas we are focusing on which will link to work taking place in each of our schools. At different points, we will ensure parents are consulted and involved in any of the work streams that are relevant to you. I have attached a summary of these below:

Trust Priorities 2020/21

- Ensuring the return of pupils to schools leads to education excellence in all aspects of school life
- Developing and implementing a Trust wide strategy to tackle issues of equality and inclusion in response to the Black Lives Matter movement
- Developing an IT strategy which leads to better access to technology and learning for all pupil groups and supports a consistent and sustainable operating model across the Trust
- Embedding our new 9 school Trust regional structure across the Inspire Partnership

Lastly, should you wish to contact colleagues from the Trust for any reason, you can email the Trust email account at: info@inspirepartnership.co.uk.

We are keen to maintain excellent relationships with families and welcome your views or feedback.

Best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Rob Carpenter".

Rob Carpenter | Trust Leader
Inspire Partnership