



## Northern Ambition Academies Trust

Crewe Road, Airedale, Castleford WF10 3JU – Tel: 01977 664555 – Fax: 01977 664556

Date: 13/07/2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Finally we reach the end of this academic year after what can only be described as the most challenging period schools have ever had to cope with. I am immensely proud of how our schools have managed throughout the pandemic and how staff and pupils have supported us in our efforts to ensure an ongoing education. Thank you also to you for your understanding and support, I really hope you feel we have done the best we could in difficult circumstances. May I take this opportunity to thank you for taking part in the Edurio survey which was sent out to you last week. Your feedback is extremely valuable to us and will be used to help shape the way we do things going forward.

### School opening plans

In my last letter I explained that the work was underway to ensure detailed plans are in place for the full reopening of all schools in September. I am delighted to say that these are now complete, as are our extensive risk assessments which will be published shortly on all school websites. **Your schools opening plans will be sent to you imminently if not already and I would urge you again to contact the school should you have any queries. We have worked hard to make these plans the most effective we can under the circumstances and believe that we are able to create the best possible conditions possible for all involved.**

It is important to remember that everything we have planned for September is subject to change. We are still over 2 months away from the start of the autumn term and much could change in that time as we know only too well. The headteachers will of course keep you informed of any change.

We cannot wait to welcome your children back to school and look forward to getting back into the routine of school life. I am sure pupils are also looking forward to seeing all of their friends and teachers again too! Our aim in all schools will be to get every pupil back on track with their learning as soon as possible. For those pupils coming back into Y11, who will be preparing for their GCSEs for summer 2021, we will aim to make use of the Government national tutoring programme (more details to come ) in order to target those young people who need the most support. Most importantly for us however, will be the wellbeing of your children on their return to school. All schools have resources and plans in place to support all pupils with this throughout the autumn term and which will complement schools usual package of wellbeing support for their pupils.

### Attendance to school from September

May I remind you that full attendance back at school in September is expected by us and by the government. Although some school reopening plans may require a phased approach in the first week to ensure all pupils are clear of our expectations, 100% attendance to school will remain a priority for each school in our trust. We know the impact that absence from school has on a child and want to work with you to ensure all our pupils return to school. We appreciate that there will be concerns around this for some of you, but please do liaise with us and work with us so we can support you and your child/children as best we can.

### School calendar 2020/21 - Reminder

For those of you who wish to book holidays for next summer and during the academic year 2020/21, please refer to the published calendars on your child's school website. It is vitally important that term time holidays are avoided after such a lengthy period away from school for our pupils.

Once again, thank you for your support over the last few months and for the support and encouragement you have given your child/children. Our staff have been delighted to receive your many complimentary emails and are hugely thankful for being so well appreciated by the community in which we serve.

I wish you all a safe and relaxing summer period. We look forward to welcoming our young people back in September.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E Fairhurst'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'E' and 'F'.

**Elizabeth Fairhurst**

*Chief Executive*

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