

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021



Dear Parents and Carers,

Following last night's announcement by the Prime Minister you will now know that our schools will close from today for on-site attendance except for vulnerable pupils and the children of critical workers. This arrangement will be until February half term at the earliest.



We received the information as you did and staff have worked tirelessly to make the right immediate arrangements going forwards. Like you, we had no prior knowledge of this decision. Your individual schools will be providing you with more detailed support and guidance over the coming days through the usual channels. School staff are fully committed to provide the best remote learning opportunities as possible and keeping those children who can attend school as safe as possible.



I want to thank you for your ongoing support throughout this pandemic, this is a difficult time for everyone, families and individuals alike. With the roll out of vaccination, I do however feel that we are looking at the last 'big push' on this horrible virus. As every day goes by we step closer to normality and a return to less disruptive schooling.



We continue to have detailed Risk Assessments in place in all of our schools. These are rigorously monitored and updated in line with all Public Health & DFE guidance. I meet with Trustees & Local Governors on a weekly basis and have done since March. Their support & challenge to me and the team continues to be critical.

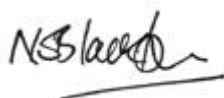


Like you, my children attend a Lingfield Education Trust school. I want for your children what I want for my own, for them to be safe, happy and helped to meet their potential. I know this to be the case and as Chief Executive of the Trust, I want to publicly thank our staff, school leaders and central team for all that they are doing.



In our trust we say that 'we gang up on the problem, not each other' it gets us through the best and worst of times and continues to. Can I thank you for your patience and flexibility over the past few days and all that you do and continue to do to keep your children engaged with school at this time.

I trust and hope that you all stay well and safe. I wish you and your families a happy new year.



Nick Blackburn  
Chief Executive Officer