



Monday 18th July 2022

Dear parent / carer

The heat is building as I write this letter. By the time you read it, we will probably have experienced record temperatures and the thunderstorms may have started. I hope you and your family have managed to stay safe and well. I am also grateful to all the staff who are working hard to keep pupils learning but, more importantly, safe.

The main reason for this letter is to thank you for your support in this eventful year. This time last year seems like a very distant memory and it seems longer than a year ago that our secondary pupils had to wear masks around school. We expect next year to be much more like a pre-pandemic year but we are ready for every eventuality.

We were all really pleased with how well the return to public examinations and formal teacher assessments went. Whether it be the Year 1 phonics screening check, GCSE written papers or A' levels, our pupils have worked hard and done their best to catch up on anything they missed over the last two years. Well done and good luck to the pupils. You have done us all proud.

Attendance in our schools seems to have been much higher than the national average this year but it still below where we were in 2019. The Children's Commissioner for England is very keen that we see September as a fresh start. There is a lot of information on the website:

[The Big Answer | Children's Commissioner for England \(childrenscommissioner.gov.uk\)](https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/the-big-answer/)

The government have issued new attendance guidance to schools and local authorities, which comes into effect in September. You can find it on the DfE website but the paper is aimed at school and local authority leaders.

I have received many positive reports about how well our pupils have behaved on recent trips and events, including action-packed trips to London and the Yorkshire Show. Again, thanks to the staff for organising these events. I know from experience how much work they take and how much responsibility rests with the organiser. The effort has clearly been worth it and it is wonderful to reintroduce these experiences after nearly two years of missing out. The trips continue over the summer break and I am sure they will be amazing.



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Finally, may I wish all our leavers every success and happiness in their new schools, colleges or employment.

Our new term starts for staff on 5th September with a training day. Schools will start to open to pupils on 6th September. Headteachers will confirm the arrangements, if they have not done so already.

I do hope you are able to enjoy a break over the summer and I look forward to welcoming everybody back in September.

Your sincerely



John McNally
CEO Share Multi Academy Trust

