



Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2020

Dear Parents and carers,

### **Update on PPA Closure arrangements**

I am writing to provide an important update in relation to Covid19 and our measures to reduce infection to protect our staff, children, and their families. In June, our Board of Trustees took the decision to close all our academies earlier on one day per week to pupils so that we could effectively facilitate statutory Planning, Preparation and Assessment time (PPA) for teachers. We reviewed this policy in October with the decision taken to extend with a commitment to further review in December. I am writing to inform you of the outcome of that review and to provide you with the context behind the decision taken.

### **Following the review, the Board of Trustees and I have agreed to return to our usual school day.**

We hope that this will support those parents who have expressed their needs around work commitments. We have also listened to those parents who were supportive of the PPA closure and wish to reassure them that the safety of our staff, pupils and parents continues to be our highest priority. Our Principals are now reviewing their risk assessments so that we limit the number of adults covering PPA across our Bubbles. This will create extra pressure on our academy budgets, but we hope that this will continue to minimise the risk of multiple bubble closures and protect staff and children.

We have reassured our Trustees that we will continue to monitor local infection rates and ensure that all reasonable measures are taken to protect our staff, children, and families. Please can you continue to support us by wearing a face mask and maintaining social distancing at both drop off and collection times.

I would like to thank you for your continued support at what remains a challenging time for everyone.

Mr Antony Hughes  
CEO