

25 February 2021

To parents and carers of children at all schools within Ebor Academy Trust

## Dear Parent/Carer

I am sure that, like us, you welcomed the Prime Minister's announcement that all children and young people should return to all schools from 8 March. It is also encouraging that a plan to exit the lockdown restrictions has been published and at long last we can start to look forward to something resembling normal life within a few months.

From Monday 8 March, therefore, school attendance will be mandatory for pupils of compulsory school age and registered at schools. The usual rules on school attendance will apply. We anticipate great excitement over the next week or so as children and parents and carers get ready to see their friends again in real life rather than on a computer screen.

Nevertheless I am conscious that some anxiety remains, both among children and young people and among adults. This remains a difficult time and we are all very well aware that Covid-19 persists and although on the wane, continues to blight everyday life. If you are concerned about the return to school, please contact the headteacher at your individual Ebor school in the first instance, so we can provide support. We want to work with you to ease these worries. School is, without doubt, the best place for children and young people for social as well as academic reasons.

All our schools are revisiting their risk assessments in preparation and social distancing measures will remain in operation, including the wearing of face coverings at primary level by adults in well-populated areas and at secondary phase by all students as well as teachers and support staff. We will continue to minimise opportunities for transmission of the virus and know we can rely on the continued support from our school communities to work together for everyone's benefit.

We look forward to seeing children back in their classrooms. Schools will be in touch directly with you with school-specific information.

Yours faithfully

Mrs Gail Brown

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Chief Executive and Executive Headteacher