

# No 1 Multi Academy Trust for disadvantaged pupils' outcomes

DfE PERFORMANCE TABLES 2019 AND No 3 IN 2018

## Top 10 National Pupil Progress

DfE PERFORMANCE TABLES 2018 AND 2019



14th January 2021

Dear Parents,

We are writing to you with an urgent request regarding the safety of our children, staff and community.

The government is asking us to '**act like you have the virus**' but this is not reflected in the numbers of children that we are seeing in school.

The numbers are at least double, sometimes triple what we saw in the first lockdown and in many cases bubbles are much larger than 15, a number that was a requirement in the first lockdown.

Whilst the government has stated that Nurseries are not closed, we have seen two schools in the Trust where both staff and children are contracting the virus resulting in closures. In fact one child, in the Trust, is very poorly with the virus. Across all year groups we are seeing increasing numbers of children and staff isolating due to positive cases in their household and yet we are told by the government that we are not even at the peak.

While the government says that parents can send their children to Nursery and key workers can send their child to school, we ask parents to consider what you **should do compared to what you can do.**

**We are appealing to parents of key workers and Nursery to keep their children at home. We will not be charging parents for paid sessions in Nursery if they keep their child at home and will review this at half term.**

It can be hard to imagine cases of COVID within the local area as we can feel remote in our location. However, current data shows that within the Teignbridge area there has been an increase in cases of 78 (now 242 per 100,000) this week and also within the area of Moretenhampstead, Lustleigh & East Dartmoor (including surrounding local areas) there has been an increase in cases of 119 (298 per 100,000).

We understand that remote learning is challenging and that sending children to school might seem a more attractive offer. However, we need to inform you that the children in school are being supervised whilst they complete the same remote learning that the children at home are doing. If this was your reason for taking a key worker space, please keep your child at home.



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## TOGETHER WE EMPOWER EXCELLENCE



Does your child need to be full time? If a place is absolutely necessary, what is the minimum amount of time they need to be in school? **If another adult is working from home, despite any key worker status in the family, please keep your child at home.**

We never thought we would be asking parents not to send their children to school yet these are unprecedented circumstances. We need to act in the interests of the safety of our children, staff and communities.

We are in this together and we ask you to work with us to minimise the spread of the virus in our school and community.

Yours sincerely

*Mrs. Guntrip*

Mrs Guntrip

Head of Academy