



## EXHALL GRANGE SPECIALIST SCHOOL

Our Ref : FT/pk

8 March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

The Governors of Exhall Grange Specialist School are delighted that staff will be welcoming back the majority of our children on the 8th of March.

Although the school has been open throughout the lockdowns, partial access and remote learning are not the same as learning, living and laughing alongside your peers. Home may be where the heart is, but all young people crave new experiences, social interaction and space.

We want to thank all of you for working in partnership with the teaching staff and your children to ensure the delivery of a rigorous home learning programme. Chris Marshall and her team responded rapidly and effectively to the requirement for remote learning, producing work packs and on-line lessons from the outset of the first lockdown. This represents a great deal of hard work, and the quality of this provision continues to be improved.

It is hard to learn if you are not happy. The welfare of our children and their families is key for the school, and consistent communication with everyone in our community has been essential during this time of constant change. Everyone has been anxious about their personal safety and that of their family and friends. Everybody has been anxious about their job security, and the general uncertainty and limit to our freedoms. Always contact the school if you need reassurance on your child's progress and welfare.

A great deal of planning and preparation has gone into the wider opening of school to ensure the safety of all. Regular testing for Covid of staff and older pupils is part of this, and we greatly appreciate your cooperation and help with this by ensuring your child is well acquainted with safety measures, has a clean face mask each day (if appropriate), and does not bring unnecessary items into school.

The school has greatly benefitted from the tireless energy and good will of all staff keeping our boat afloat in every way. I'm sure you will join us in applauding them.

Thank you for your support, and I trust that the school community is providing a safe haven for you and your children throughout this difficult time.

Yours sincerely

*Fiona Toye*

Fiona Toye, on behalf of the Governing Body