

11th May 2020



Update to parents and carers about COVID-19 Recovery steps

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to all our Parents and Carers for the schools in our Trust to provide an update following the Prime Minister's address yesterday.

As I'm sure you know too well, the landscape is one that is quickly changing and schools will need to wait to hear further details as they are shared with us. We appreciate that this may pose some levels of uncertainty for us all, but rest assured as our schools work together to navigate this landscape, we do so in a considered approach with children's safety and well-being at the forefront of our minds.

I know that governors at all levels, school staff and leaders across our schools have felt hugely proud of the collective response to date that we have achieved as a family of schools and this continues in full force.

Each child in each of our schools has not one senior leadership team but five, they have not one set of governors but also a Board of Directors and they have not one team of teachers they have a group from each of our schools who are working together to ensure excellence & equity for ALL our children in ALL our schools.

In first launching the digital platform, training staff & pupils in its use in just a few days before closure and ensuring as many children as possible were connected to it, we have seen the enormous resolve our teachers have in working together to make this successful. We were really pleased to see that now we have 90% of children connected to this (and we continue to strive to connect more) and we thank all our families for supporting this so well.

We shall respond to this latest government update in the same considered way, and in partnership with our communities, bringing senior leaders together again with calm consideration of our systems and processes in ensuring any suggested increases to the capacity in numbers of pupils in our schools, will be co-ordinated and well-thought through. Until we receive any specific guidance we will be cautious not to speculate and therefore wait to provide better details for our families.

Our school leaders have already been giving this consideration over the last few weeks anyway, and Oval is co-ordinating a response with a local hub of schools for the Local Authority, and engaged in weekly meetings with them as well.

We thank you in advance of your patience until we are able to offer any specific updates about the next steps but rest assured as soon as we are able to, we shall consult with all our parent communities when we have details of our health and safety measures and plans we will put in place for each school.

In the meantime our schools continue to be very busy providing continued support to you all for distance learning. We have collated a summary overview of all the actions behind the scenes that our schools have been engaged in, including policy updates and this can be found [here](#) in a digital Sway newsletter.

We thank you all enormously for your significant contributions in making our co-ordinated response to distance learning such a success in such challenging times. It has been wonderful to see all the amazing learning at home that children have been engaged in.

With all best wishes,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Donna Moulds', written in a cursive style.

Donna Moulds
Chief Executive Officer of Oval