



# The Consortium Trust

*Where together excellence and pupils thrive*

## Staff briefing from the CEO

10<sup>th</sup> July 2020

Dear Colleagues

Happy Friday to you all and as we now approach the last full week of what has been a bizarre and challenging school year, professionally and personally I would like to say yet again that I am full of admiration, respect and thanks for your efforts. You truly have been remarkable.

While the covid-19 pandemic has thrown a shed load of disruption, anxiety and pain at us – it has also demonstrated that the strength of the human spirit and our ability to adapt to a fast changing environment has been 'promoted' to primary life skills for us all. Those of you that know me well, will appreciate that I have never been phased by change – in fact I relish it. It is an opportunity to challenge our thinking, develop our practice and improve the impact we have on the lives of others. I also know that other people find change difficult to cope with and we must be respectful and considerate when supporting our colleagues through a transition period. There are so many 'quotes' on change management – but I feel that this one explains our journey for the coming weeks and months. Covid-19 has provided us all with a mirror to reflect in – we have been through a crisis together, think what we can achieve if we seize the opportunity.

Don't be afraid to  
**CHANGE.**  
You may lose  
something good  
but you may gain  
something better.

As you may know I have been working with a group of colleagues, to look at the government announcements around full school re-opening and the need to support pupils to 'catch-up'. We all know that there has been significant disruption to our pupils learning this year and we must look at how we can do different and do better. There are significant issues ahead, I have no doubt of that. I am also absolutely convinced that we have the strength of character, determination and skills to work collectively to achieve the amazing. I will be reporting next week on the recommendations of the 'Build Back Better' working party and how that will affect each and every one of us, please be assured that throughout we have been guided by three principles that 'happy learners are a result of content staff', 'children have one shot at primary education' and most importantly 'every action is to be driven by our values and principles'. Please have a great weekend, the sun is returning.

Yours sincerely

Andrew Aalders-Dunthorne  
CEO & Principal

Cc: Trust Board and Members  
Locality Committee members