

June 25th 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope that you and your families are well.

We are delighted to have welcomed more of our pupils back into all our schools since half term. Staff and pupils have been happy to be able to spend time in school together again. Although things are unusual, it has felt like the beginnings of a return to some form of normality. It has been great to see schools extending provision for more pupils in targeted year groups whilst continuing to provide high quality remote learning provision for pupils unable to attend school.

I want to briefly look ahead. The Prime Minister has made clear his intention for schools to open fully from September providing the scientific and medical advice allows that to happen. We are very excited about the possibility of that. We have been promised further guidance from the Department for Education before the end of term as to what we need to put in place in each of our schools to mitigate risks of infection. Full and thorough risk assessments will be carried out on every site before we open more widely.

Our schools will close fully on July 17th for the summer break. They have been open almost every day since February. Before we break up we will do as much as we can to prepare for the September opening. School closure will allow us to complete much needed planned and preventative maintenance in readiness for the start of the new year. Our secondary schools will as usual be open for A Level and GCSE results in August and Secondary Headteachers will be in touch to talk about how this will happen. Fingers crossed for great results. Our young people deserve them. As is always the case our staff will be available to pupils to support them in their move either into our 6th Forms or higher education.

We have finally received the laptops promised us by the Department for Education in March for Year 10 pupils without access to a laptop at home. They will be ready for distribution next week to pupils moving from Year 10 into Year 11 who have been identified as in need by the school. We hope to broaden out this strategy to other young people without access to a device in the autumn term. Our vision for 'No child Left Behind' won't happen unless we know that every pupil has the technology to access materials sent by their teacher, for them to work at home.

Your Headteacher will contact you before we break up outlining the arrangements for the start of the school year. If we have to further revise that plan through the summer, we will be in contact with you. Heads will also offer advice on what each pupil can do from home over the summer break and provide further detail about other arrangements including exams and transition.

For further information, please contact the school in the usual way or Beckfoot Trust by emailing BeckfootTrust@beckfoot.org

Finally, I want to thank you all for your continued support. It has been remarkable and greatly appreciated. Let us hope that we can find some form of normality from September.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Horn." The signature is written in a cursive style with a period at the end.

David Horn
CEO