

My Ref: JP / TK076

Date: 21 July 2021

Dear Headteacher

As the Summer term ends and school finishes for another year, I wanted to take the time to thank you and your staff for everything you have done over the past 12 months and beyond.

It has been a school year unlike any other. You have coped with tremendous change and disruption, implemented new measures to keep people safe in your school, and above all, helped thousands of children and young adults continue with their education.

The pressure that schools have faced have been well documented, and we have certainly seen this in Staffordshire. What is perhaps less-well documented is how resilient our headteachers and school staff have been throughout the Covid-19 pandemic. We have seen how hard you have worked to ensure children can keep learning, whether that is in a bubble in school, or online while they are isolating at home.

As the county opens up, we know there will be more challenges ahead, which is why the County Council will be keeping a Local Outbreak Team dedicated to supporting Education and Early Years settings. The team will also be ensuring that settings are fully briefed on the latest guidance etc ready for the new school year in September.

In the meantime the team can be contacted at C19LOC.education@staffordshire.gov.uk or there is a messaging service at 01785 854004.

Once again, thank you for your hard work over the past year. We hope you find some time to have a break over the summer holidays and we will be back in touch soon.

Yours sincerely



Jonathan Price
Cabinet Member for Education
(and SEND)



Dr Richard Harling
Director of Health & Care