



The St. Bart's Multi-Academy Trust  
Belgrave St Bartholomew's Academy  
Sussex Place, Longton, Stoke-On-Trent,  
Staffordshire, ST3 4TP  
[www.sbmat.org](http://www.sbmat.org) / 01782 235524

July 9<sup>th</sup> 2020

St. Bart's Schools opening for **all** children September 2020

Dear Parents and carers,

As we approach the end of what has been an extraordinary and challenging year for us all I thought I would write to you to express my thanks for all your support and forbearance throughout the CV19 pandemic. We recognise that whether your child has been in school or at home, it has been incredibly difficult for all. That is why we are all looking to the September restart **for all children** as the beginning of a return to something like normality. I say, something like, because things will be different, perhaps for a very long time to come, but we are determined to see the positive and seize the opportunities that present themselves, to improve provision for everyone. That is why we wish to reassure you that whilst, whatever the circumstances, we at St. Bart's will continue to do our very best to ensure that every child is as safe as we can make them, we will also go the extra mile to ensure that they receive the very best care and education we can provide.

We have learned much during this pandemic and will look to reconstruct our education provision to begin to implement the changes necessary to ensure that technology is at the heart of all we do. We want all our children to have easy access to the most up to date learning methods and therefore we will bring forward our plans for investment in new technologies and equipment that will make learning in a St. Bart's school some of the most advanced in the country. We have already achieved this in some of our schools but the roll out will now gather pace with significant investment in equipment, resources and training over the next few years. We are excited by this prospect and look forward with huge optimism as we begin this journey together.

In accordance with the new government guidance for September our schools will continue to ensure that a hierarchy of safety measures continues to be in place and that all that can be done is done to ensure that our schools can be as safe as possible. As such a rigorous risk assessment will remain in place for the foreseeable future.



St Bart's Multi-Academy Trust is a charitable company limited by guarantee and registered in England and Wales with company number 08735454. The registered office is at Belgrave St. Bartholomew's Academy, Sussex Place, Longton, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire, ST3 4TP.

In addition, in the first two weeks additional safety measures will be in place to facilitate the safe return of all children back to class whilst we fully assess the Covid 19 situation at that time. It is our intention to “get back to normal” as soon as possible and we will focus heavily in the coming months on supporting children’s well-being and their social and emotional health. The link below outlines current thinking on this.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-supporting-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-and-wellbeing>

We recognise that there will be a number of challenges to face in the autumn term, but we believe that by working closely together, the school and the home, we can make this a positive and successful return. We will do our very best to make this work and be safe for your children and our staff and will take whatever action is required to do so.

Finally, as Chief Executive Officer for the Trust I wish to pay special thanks to all our Principals and staff who have worked so hard to adjust to the challenges of the past few months. I am so proud of each and every one of them for their “can do” attitude and the care and professionalism they have consistently demonstrated. I also wish again to thank you, our parents and carers, who have had to cope with incredible pressures too. Thank you for your amazing support and co-operation. On behalf of us all at St. Bart’s I wish you a happy and safe summer break. This crisis is not yet over, we need to stay alert to the threat, but together we can and we will build a better future for all.

Thank you all for your continued support and we look forward to welcoming you back to school in September.

Yours sincerely,



Chris Brislen  
Chief Executive Officer