

TRUST UPDATE #6

Partial School Opening/Closure

Monday 4 May, 2020



MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

WHEN WILL CHILDREN RETURN TO SCHOOL AFTER CORONAVIRUS?

As we move into our seventh week of lockdown in the UK, many people are feeling restless for change but medical experts have warned that we must continue to follow the 'social distancing' measures to fight the spread of the virus. When the UK does begin to ease out of lockdown, it is becoming clear that we will be moving into a 'new normal' rather than a sudden return to our lives pre-Coronavirus. Over the last six weeks we have seen unprecedented changes to every part of our lives and we must take some learning from this as we move into the next chapter of our lives.

This week the news headlines have been dominated by speculation about when schools will reopen in the UK. The Education Secretary is on record as saying that "schools will have a 'phased' reopening following the Coronavirus shutdown". There is no date set for schools to reopen, however school leaders have been asked to consider how this return might look in their particular context. Over the page I have shared the questions asked and the responses from education leaders across the country.

Whilst parents and teachers want to know when children can return to school, the Education Secretary acknowledged that he does not want schools to reopen until it is 'safe'. As the Government consider the path to reopening schools, they will consider three key questions: when to reopen, for whom, and with what health and safety precautions in place. There is not one right set of answers to these questions and the Government will need to make decisions based on the latest scientific advice.

Once schools are deemed safe for reopening, leaders will need to consider the transition back in to school carefully, taking into account the need for the potential continuation of social distancing alongside the need for all children to reacquaint themselves with the educational environment.

Leaders have warned against a rush to reopen schools and have insisted that any return needs to be carefully planned for with an appropriate lead in time. At this stage there have been no timelines or details published on this matter, however please be assured that once we receive guidance from the government we will share this with you.

Please keep safe and well.
David Sutton



PROUD OF OUR
COMMUNITY

"Delivering exceptional learning experiences that enable young people to thrive in a competitive world and lead successful and fulfilling lives."



GOVERNMENT PLANNING FOR THE RE-OPENING OF SCHOOLS

This week the Government have asked school leaders a number of questions to help them shape their thinking and planning around the reopening of schools. I have included the key questions and some of the responses below for your information. Please note that this is a selection of answers from school leaders across the country and does not reflect the government view.

Q1: On the assumption that there will need to be fewer pupils in school at first, what is your preferred model for achieving this? Is it better to have all students in on a rota basis, or specific year groups?

There are at least three imperatives in opening schools more widely:

- **The economic imperative:** this is about supporting parents to go back to work and mitigating the impact of a deeper recession and more child poverty, with the detrimental impact that child poverty has on future life chances;
- **The educational imperative:** this is about mitigating the impact of educational disruption, particularly on the most vulnerable and disadvantaged pupils; and
- **The health/ medical imperative:** this is about reducing the spread of the virus and the health and wellbeing of children and adults.

For those leaders who believe the priority is restarting the economy and supporting parents get back to work, the view is that we should open schools more widely using a quota system – so a third of children by date X, rising to 50 percent of children by date Y.

For those leaders who see mitigating the impacts of educational disruption as being most important, the view is that we should bring back specific year groups – younger children to protect crucial early reading, year 5, year 10 and year 12. However, this does not support parents to go back to work as they may have children in different year groups.

Leaders in both groups (economic and educational imperatives) can see that a rota may work to ensure that we are abiding, as far as possible with the most up to date public health advice on social distancing, although everyone acknowledges that social distancing for young children is nearly impossible.

Q2: If there were an announcement about a return for more pupils and a three-week lead-in period, what are the specific actions and decisions schools/Trusts would have to take in that time?

There is a strong view that three weeks is the **minimum** lead-in time to open schools more widely. Specific actions and considerations prior to any return relate to:

- Availability of staffing in school
- Preparation of premises for any return
- Revisions to curriculum to address gaps in learning
- Timetabling arrangements for students returning
- Transport arrangements
- Health and safety and public health considerations for all
- Pastoral and welfare arrangements for the most vulnerable
- Communications with staff, parents and the community

Q3: If schools were required to plan for the return of more pupils, how might social distancing be implemented, and how might this vary from school-to-school?

Key considerations would include classroom and corridor size, the number of teaching spaces, ability to stagger lunchtimes, the number of entrance points to the school and the ability to vary drop off and pick up times (which may be transport-dependent), the size and location of outside spaces, size and number of toilets, the size of halls and collective worship spaces.

The prevailing view is that some form of social distancing in mainstream schools could be achieved if there were no more than 10-12 pupils in a class, but this depends heavily on classroom and corridor size of individual schools.

The Prime Minister has promised to set out next week how schools and workplaces could safely reopen once the lockdown restrictions were eased. However, he has stressed that any change would only come once the Government are confident the outbreak is under control.



PREPARED
FOR THE
CHALLENGE
OF CHANGE

Over 90% of the children at **MALTBY MANOR ACADEMY** are engaging and have been in contact with school - with 68% accessing Purple Mash this week!



QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

'Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.'

Nelson Mandela



SUPPORTING 'DIGITALLY EXCLUDED'

In today's world, there is an increasing expectation that we are all digitally connected. The ability to access the internet is becoming an essential part of our everyday lives, as is the need to own electronic devices, laptops and computers. Our IT platform enables students to continue with their learning in their own homes. However, this requires students to have access to both the internet and to digital devices, laptops or computers.

In order to support children accessing their learning online, particularly those year groups preparing for external examinations next year, staff will be contacting families where children have not accessed the online resources through the period of lockdown to identify any barriers encountered. You can expect a call this week if your son/daughter is in Year 10 and falls into this category.

WATH ACADEMY are in the top 8% of all 1660 Hegarty Maths schools. Students are now close to having answered half a million questions this academic year!

WHERE CAN I GO TO GET SUPPORT TO HELP KEEP MY CHILD SAFE ONLINE?

There is support available to keep your child safe online. Here are some useful links to help parents and carers:

- **THINKUKNOW** provides advice from the National Crime Agency (NCA) to stay safe online. The NCA has launched Thinkuknow to help families manage during this time – on this website you can find fun, engaging activities, cartoons, films, games, and advice articles.
- **PARENT INFO** is a collaboration between Parentzone and the NCA providing support and guidance for parents from leading experts and organisations
- **CHILDNET** provides a tool kit to support parents and carers of children of any age to start discussions about their online life, to set boundaries around online behaviour and technology use, and to find out where to get more help and support
- **LGFL** provides support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online, including 6 top tips to keep primary aged children safe online
- **INTERNET MATTERS** provides age-specific online safety checklists, guides on how to set parental controls on a range of devices and a host of practical tips to help children get the most out of their digital world
- **NET AWARE** provides support for parents and carers from the NSPCC, providing a guide to social networks, apps and games
- **LET'S TALK ABOUT IT** provides support for parents and carers to keep children safe from online radicalisation
- **UK SAFER INTERNET CENTRE** provides tips, advice, guides and resources to help keep children safe online, including parental controls offered by home internet providers and safety tools on social networks and other online services



PARTIAL OPENING – STUDENT NUMBERS ATTENDING ACROSS THE TRUST

	WATH ACADEMY	SIR THOMAS WHARTON ACADEMY	MALTBY ACADEMY	MALTBY LILLY HALL ACADEMY	MALTBY MANOR ACADEMY	RAVENFIELD PRIMARY ACADEMY	MALTBY REDWOOD ACADEMY
MONDAY	6	15	6	10	17	6	10
TUESDAY	5	15	6	17	15	5	13
WEDNESDAY	9	15	6	17	15	8	13
THURSDAY	6	15	6	12	18	9	13
FRIDAY	5	15	6	10	15	6	11



MALTBY ACADEMY students are spending on average 49 minutes each working on Hegarty Maths!

TRIBUTE TO MR ERIC SIMCOX - FORMER HEAD TEACHER AT MALTBY LILLY HALL JUNIOR SCHOOL

It is with great sadness that we share the news that Mr Simcox passed away on Friday 24th April 2020. Parkinson's curtailed his innings 12 short of the century that we're sure he coveted! Mr Simcox became the Head Teacher at Maltby Lilly Hall in 1965; at the age of 33 he was the youngest Head in the West Riding at the time. He served the school community for 22 years, influencing and shaping the lives of hundreds of children and young people and their families.

He will always be remembered for the wonderful learning opportunities he afforded the students and staff in the Maltby Learning Community.

THANK YOU

We would like to take a moment to recognise those in our community supporting the key worker roles, particularly acknowledging the contribution made by those working for and supporting the NHS. You are doing a truly incredible job and we are forever thankful for your care and commitment.

Thank you to our students for their incredible efforts during this period of home learning. You can find many examples of their fabulous work on the gallery pages on the respective Academy website.



LATEST GOVERNMENT GUIDANCE

In line with the latest Government Guidance for schools and educational settings, if children can stay at home safely, they should wherever possible. This is the best way we can limit the chance of the Coronavirus spreading. The fewer children in educational settings, the lower the risk that the virus can spread and infect vulnerable individuals in wider society. That is why we are asking that you only your children to school should they absolutely need to attend.

We thank you in advance for your continued support on this matter.





YEAR 11 IN FOCUS

STUDENT CELEBRATIONS

We'd like to take this opportunity to reassure all Year 11 students across the Trust that all planned celebrations WILL take place, just a little later than planned. We cannot wait to celebrate with you.

TRANSITION

Whilst we are working through this period of lockdown I would encourage you to discuss the next stage of your son/daughter's learning journey with them.

If their Post 16 destination is set, then the next step will be to access the preparatory learning resources to support the Year 11 into Year 12 transition. Transition packs will be available on the Academy websites from 6th May 2020.

If their progression route next year is still unclear, you can access a 1-1 online interview with one of our specialist careers advisors, who can support students to explore their options after Year 11, provide expert careers guidance, and provide help for students with CV writing, finding and researching vacancies, completing application forms and interview skills.

Please contact your school for more information and to make an appointment. You might also find the following links useful:
<https://amazingapprenticeships.com/about-ask/>
<https://www.startprofile.com/>

Maltby Academy students can access further advice from Careers Inc using the following link:
www.careersinc.uk/blog/2020/03/18/virtual-careers-advice/
Fill in the form and an adviser will be in touch to give advice via e-mail or over a phone call.



MEET THE MALTBY LEARNING TRUST TEAM



MISS LINDLEY

Year 4 Teacher
MALTBY LILLY HALL ACADEMY



1. Who inspires you?

The person who inspires me the most is my mum. She is quite ill (even though you wouldn't be able to tell by looking at her), yet she just carries on and doesn't let anything stop her! She is amazing.

2. What was the best concert you ever attended?

The best concert I have ever attended was a surprise 'Vance Joy' concert I arranged to go to for my partner.

3. Where's your favourite place in the world?

My favourite place in the world is Dublin, Ireland. I have been 7 times so far. I love it, it has almost become a home away from home.

4. What's the last book you read?

The last book I read was The Tattooist of Auschwitz. I love history, it's my favourite subject.

5. What's your favourite movie?

My favourite movie is Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire. Harry Potter has got to be my favourite movie franchise. I'm pretty sure I know the scripts now!

6. Who would you like to swap places with for a day?

The Queen! I find her fascinating and who wouldn't want to live in a palace for a day?

7. What are some of your pet peeves?

- People chewing with their mouth open
- Bad manners

8. What's your favourite meal and which four people would you choose to eat it with?

I absolutely love Thai food. The four people I would choose to eat with would be; 1. David Attenborough because I love animals. I'd love to talk to him about the different animals he's seen and the different places he's visited; 2. Rob Brydon, for comedy value. I think he is hilarious (and I love Gavin and Stacey); 3. Chrissy Teigen as she uses her platform and social influence in a very positive manner; and 4. Khloe Kardashian, again for comedy value. I love that she doesn't take herself too seriously.

9. What's your secret talent that no-one knows about?

I used to play the piano (my skills are definitely not what they used to be).

10. What's your favourite family tradition?

We always have a family weekend away, every year in August. Usually we go to a lovely, little rustic cottage in North Yorkshire.

11. During this period of lockdown, what are you missing about daily life?

I am really missing my family and friends. Even though we still speak every day, I can't wait to go and see them.

12. What are you enjoying doing during lockdown?

I am really enjoying planning my wedding and going out on my daily walks and getting some exercise.

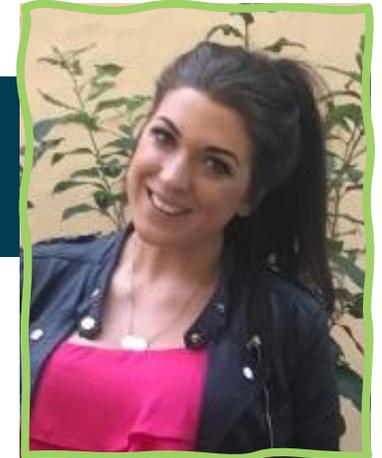


MEET THE MALTBY LEARNING TRUST TEAM



MRS BLYTHE

Leader of Marketing MALTBY LEARNING TRUST



1. Who inspires you?

Karren Brady. She's a role model of mine, she's a mum of two but she doesn't let that hold her career back in any way, and she holds her own in a very male-oriented industry - when she was just 23, she was nicknamed 'The First Lady of British Football'.

2. What was the best concert you ever attended?

My husband and I went to the 'Adele; The Finale' concert at Wembley in 2017 and it was incredible. I've been a fan ever since she released her first album in 2008; my children have been brought up on her songs.

3. Where's your favourite place in the world?

Filey, without a doubt. It has such a beautiful beach and we visit most summers. We always stay at a holiday village called The Bay and it holds some really special memories for me.

4. What's the last book you read?

The last book I read was Dawn O'Porter's 'So Lucky'. It's a really easy read that explores how people's lives aren't always what they seem and how everyone is fighting a private battle we know nothing about.

5. What's your favourite movie?

I think this would have to be 'The Butterfly Effect'. It is one of those films that you can't stop thinking about afterwards and it's incredibly well done.

6. Who would you like to swap places with for a day?

I'd like to swap places with David Attenborough - I would love to see some of the animals and visit the places he does. It must be amazing!

7. What are some of your pet peeves?

Bad grammar/punctuality.

8. What's your favourite meal and which four people would you choose to eat it with?

I love anything Italian, my favourite being a Seafood Linguine. I would invite: Jamie Oliver - I have been a huge fan ever since his 'Naked Chef' days; Dawn O'Porter - I watched her documentary 'Super Slim Me' when I was 17 and it changed the way I think about body image completely, I think she's great; Dane Cook - he's an American comedian that I find hilarious; and Usher - I am forever listening to his earlier albums, so he can provide the music.

9. What's your secret talent that no-one knows about?

I learned to play the trombone when I was in school and then I decided it wasn't 'glam' enough so switched to flute lessons instead.

10. What's your favourite family tradition?

It's an obvious one, but it's Christmas Day/Boxing Day - we spend Christmas morning at home and then we have dinner with my family, and tea with my husband's family, allowing us to do absolutely nothing on Boxing Day and stay in our pyjamas all day, finding new homes for our presents.

11. During this period of lockdown, what are you missing about daily life?

I have young children, so the thought of 'going into the office' now seems like a luxury. Working from home with toddlers is testing!

12. What are you enjoying doing during lockdown?

Despite my previous answer, it's amazing to be able to spend this time with my children - I'm seeing them grow and learn new things everyday, I am very lucky to be experiencing the lockdown in their company.



CONNECTING
CONNECTING STUDENTS
CONNECTING STAFF
CONNECTING SCHOOLS





FREE SCHOOL MEALS

All students eligible for 'Free School Meals' across the Trust will be provided with e-vouchers that can be redeemed for food in many of the local supermarkets, including: Asda, Tesco, Sainsbury's, Morrisons and Aldi.

The e-voucher codes will be emailed to eligible families every Monday.

If the school does not have a current email address for a family, the appropriate gift cards will be posted on Monday (please allow 3 days for delivery).

Please note: Last week we experienced a delay with the processing of vouchers from the National provider 'Edenred'. This was due to the increased demands placed on this service from schools across the country. The Academy/Trust now have a contingency plan in place and will go direct to the supermarkets for vouchers if this was to happen again.

DO YOU QUALIFY?

DO YOU RECEIVE ANY OF THE FOLLOWING?

- Income support
- Employment Support Allowance (Income Related)
- Income based Job Seekers Allowance
- Guaranteed Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit and your income (as calculated by Inland Revenue is) is less than £16,190
- Universal Credit
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act of 1999
- Working in the Armed Forces

If you can answer yes to any of the above you may qualify for Free School Meals/Pupil Premium.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

If you want your child to have a free, healthy meal at lunchtime – they will receive a free school meal. This can save you more than £350 a year and allow the school to get additional funding to support your child's learning. (£1,345 per primary-aged pupil. £955 per secondary-aged pupil per year).

Please remember you must qualify and register for the free school meals for the school to receive the extra money even if you do not want your child to have the free school meals.

Registering for free school meals is confidential, no one will know you have registered and it will not affect any other benefits you are claiming.

HOW TO APPLY

[Click here](#) to complete a simple online form, or pick up an application form from any MLT Academy.



SOCIAL, EMOTIONAL AND MENTAL HEALTH – EATING WELL

Research suggests that eating well is associated with positive mental health. The Mental Health Foundation quote a [2014 Study](#) which linked fruit and vegetables with high levels of wellbeing. There is also research which proposes a small amount of dark chocolate helps to improve mood and brain function. Chocolate lovers beware though; a high intake of chocolate can be associated with low mood and depression! This goes to show that balance is everything. It is certainly true that when we are stressed our bodies are more likely to crave food that is higher in fat and sugar, which might lead to unwanted weight gain. To find out more information on eating well, have a look at some of the tips on this page or [click here](#) for 8 tips on healthy eating. If you are worried that eating is becoming problematic for you, a friend or family member it might be worth looking at [Mind's Information Page](#), or BEAT also have some [top tips](#) to overcome eating disorders.

EATING HABITS

How we eat is just as important as what we eat. One of the benefits of the current situation for many of us is that we don't have to eat meals 'on the run' or fit food haphazardly into our busy daily routine. A healthy eating routine can have huge effects on your physical health and emotional wellbeing. Always have breakfast - evidence shows that having breakfast leads to increased energy and less snacking during the day. Try planning meals in advance, cooking them with your family and sitting down to eat them round a table without any distractions. It's also important to eat slowly and chew food thoroughly. This is important for digestion and also for mental wellbeing. Try a [mindful eating exercise](#) to explore how eating at a slower pace can help you to feel calmer, relaxed and re-energised.

A BALANCED DIET

A healthy, balanced diet is good for our physical health but also helps us to feel good mentally. Ensuring we eat our '5 a day' goes a long way to assisting with our diet which, providing we consume food in the right proportions, helps us to maintain a healthy body weight. For adults, [the Eatwell Guide](#) provides useful information on maintaining a healthy diet. Certain foods help to boost brain power. [Here are some examples for you and your children](#). Or you could try making a summer fruit smoothie, [click here](#) for the recipe!

SNACKING

When we are bored, or not being mentally challenged, it is easy to start snacking. It is also common to feel guilty about comfort eating or emotionally based eating, which affects our mood. It's important to recognise triggers for snacking between meals and find a healthy distraction. You could call a friend, do a crossword or perhaps take up art and craft. How about painting some rocks – [click here for ideas](#). If you are craving a snack it's often better to drink water or herbal tea. You could [try making your own herbal tea!](#) Or [click here](#) for ideas of healthy snacks you can make with your children.

KEEP ACTIVE

When we are stressed our body releases cortisol which triggers hunger. However, exercise brings cortisol levels down and increases feelings of wellbeing. You could try [learning to belly dance!](#) Take your dog for a walk and [practise mindfulness](#) at the same time, or for some home workout ideas, [click here](#).



ENRICHING LIVES
AND DEVELOPING
CHARACTER



PROTECT YOURSELF AND HELP PREVENT INFECTION

There is currently no vaccine to prevent COVID-19. The single, most important action you can all take is to **PRACTISE SOCIAL DISTANCING** - this will prevent you being exposed to, and reduce the risk of transmission of the virus.

- ◆ You should **STAY AT HOME** to reduce your day-to-day contact with other people and reduce the spread of the infection.
- ◆ You should only leave the house for necessary food shopping, one form of exercise a day, any medical need or for travelling for work purposes, but only where you cannot work from home.
- ◆ **WASH YOUR HANDS** often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds especially after you have been in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- ◆ Put distance between yourself and other people. Try to stay 2 metres away from people **AT ALL TIMES**. This includes your friends and family – keep in touch using remote technology such as phone, internet and social media.

For further information about how to protect yourself and others, [click here](#).

For information about the closure of schools and other educational settings following the outbreak of coronavirus (COVID-19), [click here](#).

For information about Maltby Learning Trust and what we are doing to keep our staff and students safe, [click here](#).

For more information about social distancing and how to protect vulnerable people, [click here](#).



An average of 86% of students at **RAVENFIELD PRIMARY ACADEMY** have been accessing Purple Mash, with an amazing 97% of Year 3 answering questions this week!



SUPPORTING MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING

This is an unsettling time for all members of our community but parents/carers may be additionally worried about their child's mental health and emotional wellbeing. If you are concerned about your child, you can receive an initial telephone call to discuss your concerns further, please email your child's Academy, stating 'MENTAL HEALTH AND EMOTIONAL WELLBEING SUPPORT' in the subject line.

If you have any other concerns about your child, please contact the Academy directly using the following e-mail addresses:

WA	enquiries@wathacademy.com pastoralteam@wathacademy.com safeguarding@wathacademy.com
MA	info@maltbyacademy.com ma-PastoralTeam@maltbyacademy.com ma-Safeguarding@maltbyacademy.com
STWA	admin@stwacademy.com
RPA	info@ravenfieldprimaryacademy.com
MLHA	info@maltbylillyhallacademy.com
MRA	info@maltbyredwood.com
MMA	info@maltbymanoracademy

KEEPING IN TOUCH

It is important to remember that we are all part of the same community and that we find any way we can to stay connected to each other.

We will aim to send out regular communications responding to frequent questions we have received, informing you of any developments that we are made aware of and sharing important updates with you. However; the best way you can stay up to date and in touch with us is by following our Twitter account: @maltbylearning.

We would like for Twitter to become a forum through which parents and colleagues can share updates about how they are spending their time during the school closure period, celebrating any amazing work their children complete, or posting hints, tips and tricks they may have for getting through this time at home.

PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU TAG US @MALTBYLEARNING OR USE #MLTCOMMUNITY IN YOUR POST.



A whopping 31,500 questions have been answered on Hegarty Maths this week by students at **SIR THOMAS WHARTON ACADEMY**



GOOD NEWS



Inspired by Captain Tom, **RAVENFIELD PRIMARY ACADEMY** student Reece raised almost £500 for the NHS by doing laps around his garden on his bike. He completed over 4000 laps and made the Rotherham Advertiser!



MALTBY MANOR ACADEMY have supplemented the learning of some key families this week who do not have internet access. They have created over 30 packs of learning which have either been hand delivered or collected from school.

MALTBY REDWOOD ACADEMY held their first 'virtual assembly' this week via Dojo where students were encouraged to 'share the love'. Children have been sending cards to those less fortunate and carrying out little acts of kindness all week!



WATH ACADEMY Music teacher Mr Morley has created his own jingle to encourage students to follow the new Wath Music Instagram account! [Watch it here!](#)

Each day Mrs Wilby at **MALTBY MANOR ACADEMY** is giving the children a science challenge and staff have been overwhelmed by the levels of engagement. Some children have even dressed as scientists or in full PPE to complete the challenges!

'Votes for Schools' have been in contact with **WATH ACADEMY** this week to let them know how impressed they are with the quality of responses received from students. For the last three weeks, the school has been named in their PowerPoint which is sent out to over 2000 schools.



Because the **MALTBY LILLY HALL ACADEMY** Year 5 trip to Bamburgh cannot take place, the boat driver has very kindly been out to sea to record the puffins, seals and other wildlife for the students, [watch the video here](#), it's fantastic!



Students at **RAVENFIELD PRIMARY ACADEMY** have been putting together a time capsule and writing letters to their future selves. As they were exploring school to find a suitable place, they found a time capsule from 5 years ago, buried when the school joined the Maltby Learning Trust! It's not yet been opened, more details to follow next week!

