



SEATON VALLEY FEDERATION OF SCHOOLS

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Good afternoon

I hope you are well and that you have been enjoying the lovely weather that we have been having. As always time seems to be flying by and we are already at the end of our second week back. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the vast majority of pupils across all 3 schools who have returned to school and settled back into their schooling with no issues at all. As always they are a credit to themselves and you. Sadly, a small minority have found the return to school more of a challenge and have caused some issues. I must make it clear to everyone myself and my staff will not tolerate this type of behaviour, should a young person choose to behave in a way that is not acceptable to the values and ethos of the Federation, they will be given consequences for their actions. However, the vast majority of our young people are doing a fantastic job in all that they do.

Next week sees the start of the assessment window for our years 11 and 13 and I hope that these go well for them. Parents of pupils who are doing assessments this year will receive more detail over the next few weeks as to how things are progressing and what the national exam boards are doing.

I am also aware that we have pupils who are transferring this year from middle school to high school and from first school to middle school. We will be running a transition programme this year and whilst it may not be our usual activities, we will be doing our very best to make sure that all pupils get a good transition experience. This year we are also looking at a different transition experience for our young people joining the 6th form and more details of that will be shared shortly.

In all 3 schools we are looking at carrying out as many normal activities as we possibly can and as a result this week we have had activities based around Earth Day, Stephen Lawrence Day and we are looking at how we can bring as much normality into our schools as possible. People have asked me when will we be able to do away with face masks? At this moment in time I have not heard anything apart from it will be reviewed on the 18th May 2021. There has also been no guidance on when we will be able to move away from the "bubbles" we currently have in place. I think I speak for everyone. We hope it's as soon as possible so that we can have some semblance of normal school before the end of the year.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you parents and carers who have supported us since we have returned to school and also my staff who once again are making sure that the education that is being provided is the best that it can be so that our young people feel safe secure and are able to learn. Please, if your child is struggling let someone know so that we can support them.

I hope everyone has a good weekend and I wish our year 11s and 13s all the best for the next few weeks whilst they are doing their assessments.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'John Barnes'.

John Barnes
Executive Headteacher