



Dear Parents/Carers,

Wider opening of Peak Edge schools

I'm writing to update you on our plans for wider opening of the schools in Peak Edge Trust and our work towards allowing greater access for children of key workers, vulnerable children and pupils in nursery, Foundations Stage, Year 1 and Year 6.

I am incredibly proud of all our schools and their staff teams. I want to say publicly what I communicated to them a few weeks ago, that we are all very proud of them and appreciate their ongoing dedication and love for our children and communities.

Secondly, may I thank you all for your support over the past few weeks as we have all navigated the challenging lockdown. Our schools have reported how supportive and understanding you have been while we have adapted our teaching provision. It is great to hear how so many are benefitting from the online resources and engaging with learning from home. As a parent of three children myself, I know how challenging it has been but I want to thank you, for your perseverance as we know our children's development and learning in these formative years is so important.

When we formed Peak Edge Academy Trust, just over a year ago, we did so because of a shared passion for innovative teaching practices and engaging learning that puts our children first. The success of our schools and Peak Edge is not only due to our excellent and passionate staff and brilliant children but also our wider parent/carer communities. You help us deliver such amazing learning experiences and outcomes for all our children.

As we begin to emerge from the lockdown we will rely on our community spirit and loyalty even more. Our leadership teams are currently busy studying Government guidelines and preparing plans for children to begin returning to our schools after the half-term holiday. This is a challenging task which will take time and requires our Senior Leadership Teams to make complex logistical decisions around the use of the school buildings, staffing timetables etc. It is for this reason, as Trustees, we believe we cannot begin admitting a wider cohort into schools until 8th June. I wish it could be sooner but we need to be mindful of the practical challenges that our schools face when observing the guidelines, for example each building has its own layouts and physical restrictions.

As Chair of Trustees, I have confidence in the Headteachers and their staff teams to implement the guidelines, as advised by Government, in the most suitable way for their school environments and circumstances.

Registered Office: Oughtibridge Primary School, Naylor Road, Sheffield, S35 0HG | Tel: 0114 286 3167

Peak Edge is an exempt charity and a company limited by guarantee, registered in England with company number 11650747.



We will keep you updated through your own school with details as soon as we have them regarding your child and the wider opening strategy.

I hope you will understand the challenges we face and I thank you for your continued support as we navigate this next phase.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dave Cates", is written over a light blue circular stamp.

Dave Cates
Chair of Trustees

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