

24<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

First of all, I do very much hope that you have managed to get some rest over the holiday period and this communication finds you all in good health and positive spirits.

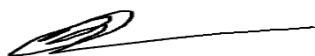
I write to inform you that following instructions from the Government, all Waterton academies will be open for all children by no later than March the 8<sup>th</sup>. The Government's directive is clear in that attendance will be mandatory for all pupils. The usual rules on school attendance will apply, including parents' duty to secure their child's regular attendance at school.

The only exception to the above is the attendance of children who have been confirmed as clinically extremely vulnerable. Advice for pupils who have been confirmed as clinically extremely vulnerable is to shield and stay at home as much as possible and not to attend school while shielding advice applies nationally. Academies will ensure a remote curriculum offer is provided.

Given our academies represent such a diverse mix of contexts, we are not prescribing a trust wide approach to wider reopening. Headteachers know our children and families best and will be in touch by no later than Friday 26<sup>th</sup> to communicate wider reopening arrangements.

Finally, I wish to take this opportunity to formally acknowledge the unwavering commitment and support of all our communities during these difficult times. The last year has been a challenging one, but has been all the more manageable as a result of your support and understanding. On behalf of the children and staff at Waterton, I thank you all.

Yours Sincerely



Mr D Dickinson OBE  
CEO  
Waterton Academy Trust