



19 July 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we conclude a second academic year that has been disrupted by the pandemic, I write to thank you for your ongoing support.

I know that the pandemic has had a hugely disruptive impact on your lives and that some of you have also experienced the loss of a loved one. You have my admiration and my sympathy.

Despite the turbulence of lockdown, self-isolation and reopening, our schools have been determined to provide your children with the best possible quality of education, whether on site or online. Thank you for all that you have done to help with home learning throughout the pandemic. I know that juggling your children's education with your own work and family commitments was very difficult and I appreciate the sacrifices that you made.

We have lived by our STAR values even during adversity and are delighted that the excellent work of all our schools has been recognised by our designation as Lockdown Heroes by Pearson National Teaching Awards. We are hopeful that our current status as silver award winners will be transformed to gold at the national awards ceremony in November!

Next year will bring further challenges, with a substantial focus on recovery and closing any attainment gaps that may have emerged during the pandemic. Please continue to encourage your children's excellent attendance and hard work when school resumes in September. I hope that they also enjoy the programmes of clubs, enrichment activities and volunteering opportunities on offer.

In the meantime, I hope that you enjoy some special family time this summer. Thank you again for your support and commitment.

Together we are strong. We are Star.

Yours sincerely,

Sir (Mufti) Hamid Patel CBE
Chief Executive