

Dear Parent/ Carer,

It is my responsibility to again write to you with details of the Trust's approach to the current circumstances. The Trust is the legal body responsible for the operation of The Forest School.

The impact that we are seeing the Omicron virus variant having on services nationally means that we can reasonably anticipate even greater disruption to our workforce in the coming weeks than we have experienced thus far. Like all employers, the sustained level of illness absence that we have experienced in the past two years has been unprecedented.

We have maintained our commitment to you throughout the pandemic to remain open whenever it has been safe to do so. Ultimately, the number of staff available on any given day is the decisive factor in determining whether we can safely open any group, class, key phase and/or school. Your experienced Academy leadership team will continue to work alongside The Trust with the aim of maintaining the fullest safe provision possible. Where changes to normal arrangements are forced upon us, we will give the most notice possible and will maintain home-based learning provision at the fullest we possibly can.

Please bear in mind that the pandemic's effect on schools is but part of a bigger national and international picture. We ask you to work with us. We can help you by managing the situation carefully and decisively. You can help us by testing regularly, observing isolation recommendations (if they become applicable) and by taking measures to reduce the spread of the virus within the community at large.

With every good wish,



Mark Wilson, Chief Executive Officer, Wellspring Academy Trust