

April 2024

Dear Parent and Carers,

As we start the final term for this academic year I wanted to write to you to thank you for your continued support for our schools. Your support and partnership are invaluable to us, and we look forward to continuing our collaborative efforts to ensure the success and well-being of every child. As the we start this term, let's embrace the opportunities ahead with enthusiasm and positivity, knowing that together, we can create a nurturing and enriching environment for our children to thrive. Welcome back, and let's make this term a memorable and fulfilling term for everyone involved!

At EEEa we always look with optimism at the term ahead, despite the significant challenges we face in schools. Like many public sector bodies our budgets are being squeezed and we are being asked to do more with less. All schools are in the midst of a recruitment crisis and like many schools we focus on retaining our teachers as well as finding news staff. We hope that you will continue to work with us to ensure our current staff deliver the best experience possible for our children.

I have always said that teaching and learning is a collaborative partnership between you and our schools. If we work together we can help all children achieve their hopes and dreams.

Over the last two years, all but two of our six schools underwent inspection, and each one demonstrated the exceptional quality of their work. Here are some quotes that beautifully encapsulate the excellence of our schools:

'Pupils flourish here. Maybury Primary is at the heart of the community. Parents and carers appreciate the community spirit that leaders promote successfully.'

Maybury Primary School

'From children's first days at school, staff form nurturing relationships with them and their families, built on clear communication.'

The Cambridge Primary School

'Pupils meet the high expectations to succeed in their academic and personal development.'

South Camberley Primary & Nursery Primary School

'Pastoral care is a strength of the school. Many parents appreciate the focus on pupils' well-being.'

Westfield Primary School



What we do know and Ofsted have confirmed this is that the work we do in our schools is of a high quality but we are not complacent and are always keen to do better. The table below gives examples of the work we do and the impact of our work:

Activity	IMPACT
Annual detailed teaching and learning reviews	To ensure our pupils get the best deal possible
Annual staff surveys	To enable our staff to tell us what is working and what we can do to improve
External safeguarding reviews	We do these annually to ensure our children are safe
Regular building surveys	To maintain our estates
Frequent budget checks	To ensure strong financial stewardship
Invest heavily in staff development	To help our staff be the best they can be

We often hear in the news that working in schools is challenging. But it is less challenging when we work together positively. In a world with many challenges we are more resilient when we work together.

Just before the Easter holidays, our entire staff participated in an INSET day, fostering inspiration and unity among our family of schools. It's vital for us to feel a sense of belonging within our community, and we were privileged to hear from Chris Lubbe, one of Nelson Mandela's former bodyguards, whose extraordinary life journey underscores the significance of forgiveness.



I recall during the pandemic your support as parents and carers for us was immense. We worked together to do the best we could at a difficult time. We know we all face challenges in the world we live in and what I would ask is that you trust in the work that we do, that you work with us and support all the staff in our schools.

We are dedicated to:

- safeguarding, nurturing, and cherishing your children,
- delivering outstanding teaching across all subjects while relentlessly pursuing excellence;
- prioritising high standards in English and Mathematics within a diverse and engaging curriculum;
- valuing your children's creativity, individuality, and voices, supporting their self-belief and confidence as they grow;
- and preparing them to confidently embrace their next educational and life endeavours as they transition from primary education.



We have just completed our annual staff survey and we are delighted that staff value highly the support and development they receive from colleagues and I see wonderful teamwork when I visit the schools.

We're dedicated to providing the best for your children and continually striving to excel in our roles. We kindly request your collaboration and support as we navigate the challenges of education. Recognising that being a headteacher is demanding, we prioritise staff well-being, and your assistance in this endeavour ensures that our best educators remain committed to serving your children. Together, we can cultivate an environment where staff retention thrives, ultimately benefiting the educational experience of your children.

As well as Ofsted recognising our good work we have been successful in two applications to build two new schools – one in Basingstoke and another school in Aldershot. The selection process for building schools is extremely robust and we are delighted that our good work has been recognised.

In September 2025, Hounsome Fields Primary School (Basingstoke) and Stanhope Primary School (Aldershot) will open. This will be state of the art schools and will increase our family of schools to 8 which is fabulous. We know that we are more resilient as a family of schools and growing the Trust will strengthen our collaborative efforts.



Stanhope Primary School



Hounsome Fields Primary School



In addition to this exciting news, the Trust has just found out that we have been successful in the recent DFE bids for building developments. The Trust has managed to secure just under £3.5 million to complete a range of buildings works in our schools. The work will start over the summer and will focus on heating, water distribution and electrical works. Since the Trust was formed we have secured over £12 million for estates development in all our schools. This is funding we would not have had access to if we were not a Multi Academy Trust. This work does not include the solar panel installations we have put in a few of our schools.

As a Trust we continue to develop our school improvement processes and as well as developing our work in our schools we have been asked to support schools outside of the Trust. This has provided us with opportunities to develop staff and in the past 2 years we have worked with over 15 schools across the South East. Across our schools we have a range of expertise that we can draw on to ensure your children get the best possible education.

Post-COVID, schools across the nation are grappling with heightened challenges in supporting children with complex needs and ensuring their safety. There are no easy fixes for this and we know our staff are working as hard as they can within the constraints placed upon us. Our focus is on working with you positively and whilst the road ahead may be challenging, your dedication to the well-being and education of every child is commendable and can serve as a guiding light in the face of difficult decisions.





I am proud to work with such amazing staff, governors, trustees and members. We will continue to develop our schools and work with you to ensure your children thrive.

Thank you for your support and I look forward to seeing how your children will achieve over the coming months and years.

Yours sincerely

David Harris
CEO EEEa

