



North Tyneside Council

Julie Firth, Director of Children's Service
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Monday 26 February 2024

Dear colleague,

As you head into the rest of the Spring term, I wanted to write to you to thank you for your support, understanding and resilience last half term.

I know that for many of you learning looks quite different right now. I'm sure you know that closing schools or areas of schools is always a last resort, but our priority will always be your safety, the safety of your pupils and safety of your wider school community.

This situation has moved very fast, and we were not left with much time for pre-planning. The resilience you have shown, the dedication to your pupils and the achievements you have made in such a short time has been outstanding.

From quickly making the move to remote learning, through to being hands on with helping to organise the school building, your support has not gone unnoticed.

I am extremely grateful for everything you've done and continue to do for your pupils and the wider school community.

I appreciate that this is far from the ideal situation and Hazlewood Primary School may need to adapt to new ways of teaching and working for some time, but I know it would not be possible to achieve our ambitions of bringing pupils back to face-to-face learning without your support.

It's been brilliant to hear from my colleagues and Stephane Bommell how understanding you have all been and how your passion for the education

of your pupils has shone through even more in the challenging recent weeks.

We are continuing to work with the Department for Education to explore longer term solutions and we will keep you updated on any progress.

Thank you again for everything you do.

Regards,

Julie Firth
Director of Children's Services

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JF', followed by a long, horizontal, wavy line that extends to the right.

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