

## Message from Debi Bailey, CEO

Dear parents and carers

Today's edition coincides with celebrating our 4<sup>th</sup> "birthday" as a trust. I can't believe how quickly the last four years have flown by, despite the challenges of the last twelve months - a global pandemic is definitely not one of the things we anticipated we'd need to deal with when the trust was set up!



I am really proud of everything we have achieved together over the last four years. Now as we celebrate our 4<sup>th</sup> birthday as NEAT Academy Trust, I don't think we could have wished for a better present than St Hild's Church of England School in Hartlepool joining our family of schools today.

However, the most important thing for me throughout our journey so far as a trust is the care we show to our families and each other. We

always aim to put our families and our community at the heart of what we do.

I am incredibly proud of how we responded during the pandemic: the amazing remote learning offer developed, the delivery of packed lunches and food hampers, the Christmas gifts and the great way we all pulled together. I want to again take the opportunity to thank you for your continued support of the trust and our work. Collaboration is key and together we make the difference.

Working together to support our young people throughout the trust continues to be really important. Although we're all pleased that lockdown restrictions are easing, please take care to follow the government's latest advice over the Easter holidays as we want to avoid infection rates rising next term and any more disruption to the school year.



Those of you who are carrying out home testing should:

- continue to test twice a week at home during the holidays
- report positive, negative or void results using the [report a COVID-19 rapid lateral flow test result](#) portal
- carry out a test before the start of the summer term either the night before, or on the morning of, Monday 19 April
- seek a confirmatory PCR test within 2 days if someone has a positive home test <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>
- self-isolate your household for 10 days as soon as there is a positive home test and only stop self-isolating if the PCR test carried out within 2 days is negative
- inform your school at the start of term if a member of your household has tested positive during the holiday period and your child will be continuing to self-isolate.

### Easter holidays

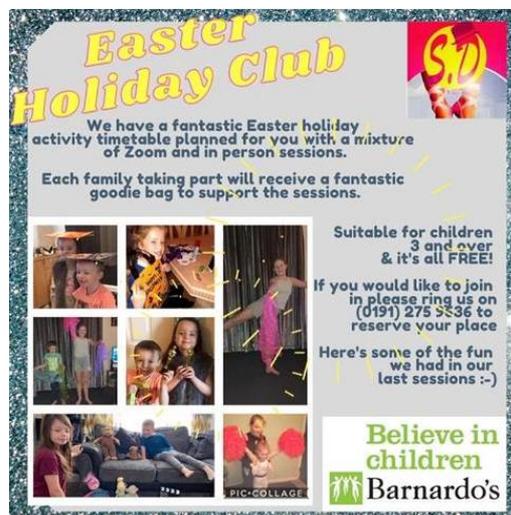
#### Arrangements for families reporting Covid-19 positive tests

The NEAT Academy Trust Office will be open from Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> April until Friday 16<sup>th</sup> April (when schools are closed).

Please telephone 0191 2284090 between 8.30am-4.00pm.

### Easter holiday fun

The Community Family Hub East has some fantastic sessions planned for families over the holidays. The sessions during 6-9 April are on Zoom and during 12-16 April there is a mixture of Zoom sessions and sessions in the Byker Sands garden on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. Please ring 0191 2759636 for more information.



### Poem to share

I came across the The Great Realisation by Tomos Roberts, which takes the form of a bedtime story being told in the future. It reminds us, as we come out of lockdown, of all of the positives we have seen. Please do take a look: <https://live.firstnews.co.uk/featured-video/the-great-realisation-by-probably-tomfoolery/>

Finally, as we slowly begin to get a sense of things 'opening up', I want to end with a message about positive thoughts.

