

# Edukos Trust

c/o Swanland Primary School, Tranby Lane,  
Swanland, East Yorkshire, HU14 3NE  
Telephone: 01482 231800 | Email: [hello@edukos.co.uk](mailto:hello@edukos.co.uk)



[www.edukos.co.uk](http://www.edukos.co.uk)  
Mr Chris Huscroft  
Chief Executive Officer

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

I would like to wish you and your children a very warm welcome back to the new school year. For those of you who are just joining one of our schools, I hope you feel welcome at your child's school and it has been a friendly experience so far.

I, along with the head teachers, staff and wider stakeholders, are really excited for the year ahead. I know the schools have many wonderful things planned for your children and we hope that you will be able to join them on a variety of occasions, to share in the experiences we create.

As the new academic year begins, I have identified, with Trustees and Head Teachers, a number of things we want to work on, both at school level and for the trust as a whole. I plan to write to you in the coming weeks to share some of these – all of which will contribute to the growth of individuals, schools and again the trust as a whole.

One thing I did want to share with you very early in the term, is about a national agenda which you will almost certainly have heard about via the media. The Government has been explicit in its intention to pursue excellent attendance for all children. This was published in their document '[Working together to improve school attendance](#)'. To us, the expectation is clear: that children should attend every session when the school is open. However, we do recognise that there will be exceptional times when it is not possible to attend school e.g. illness, medical appointments etc. We have attached some guidance with this letter for your information.

We also understand that a request for absence in very exceptional circumstances may be necessary. The Trust's policy is very clear that this should be exceptional, any such requests will be considered on an individual, case-by-case basis. Under any circumstances, this authorisation will amount to no more than 5 days (10 sessions) in any one academic year. I would urge you to please think very carefully before making such a request. It may leave the head teacher having to make some very difficult decisions.

The guidance is very clear about the roles in which Multi-Academy Trusts must play in ensuring school attendance is the best it can be. In my role as CEO, I will be held to account by our Board of Trustees for the attendance of children in each school. Therefore, by default I will be having conversations with Head Teachers in each school about the attendance of their children. This naturally means that for some families, there will also be conversations between you and your child's head teacher, about their attendance.

Should your child's attendance fall below 90% (meaning they would have missed the equivalent of 1 school day per fortnight) this will be considered as persistent absenteeism. Your school will be expected to work with you to ensure that this does not drop further and in most cases will aim to improve this overall figure for attendance.

I do hope that you will understand my reason for sharing this with you so early in the term. With all things in our Trust, we aim to be explicit about what is required of us all and I felt that by sharing this now, you will understand and be able to support your child's attendance at school.

In the meantime, I thank you for your continuing support, now and into the future.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Chris Huscroft". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small dot at the end.

**Chris Huscroft | CEO**