

Viking Academy Trust

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Chilton Primary School
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Dear Viking Parents/Carers

Viking Academy Trust: WELCOME to the start of a new school year... It is with huge excitement, anticipation (and perhaps just a few butterflies in my tummy); I share a very warm “welcome” to our Viking family.

Whilst the memory of the last school year is undoubtedly still fresh for everyone, staff across the Viking Academy Trust are keen to now look forward with enthusiasm to the start of a brand-new school year. **‘Back to School 2020’** is undeniably different from the beginning of previous academic years. Children and families the length and breadth of the country will be preparing for the re-opening of school gates; with back to school routines happening in every home. The difference being this year, it is a ‘welcome back’ for most children after a lot longer than just a summer holiday!

Please be assured our staff are very sensitive to the fact that our children will each have had their own, unique lockdown experience. In order to prepare staff to offer the support our children will need, we have ensured mental health and well-being training has, and will continue to take precedence in our staff development programme.

Our Viking curriculum has been redesigned in order to reflect the priorities our children will need in order to ensure the transition back to school is successful for everyone. Whilst we are acutely aware of the impact the break in ‘formal education’ will have had – we also come from the premise that every child is an individual and ‘one size does not fit all’. Our highly skilled team of teachers and support staff will spend the start of this year ensuring children feel happy and safe in school. Once children are secure in their environment then the academic learning will undoubtedly flourish!

Your child’s Head of School - Miss Arthur (Upton), Mr Budge (RAPS) or Mrs Law (Chilton) - will write to you across the next few days with school specific **‘Back to School’** information. Alongside this, the government has now launched its **‘Back to School Safely’** campaign ([click here](#) to access DfE information). I urge you to take time to read the documentation which will also be made available on our websites and accessible via social media platforms.

If, having received your **‘Back to School’** letter, you have any questions or concerns that remain unanswered, please do not hesitate to contact the school – or email me directly. My priority across the initial days of this new academic year will be to ensure communication systems are strong and everyone at Viking feels they have a voice – to speak out, be heard and most importantly, listened to.

Once again, I welcome families old and new back to Viking. It is my pleasure – and privilege - to lead this fantastic community of schools. I sincerely hope we are able to fulfil the pledge of trust you have bestowed upon us by choosing Chilton, Ramsgate Arts and Upton to work alongside you – parents –in educating your children!

Wishing us all a happy, healthy, safe and successful year ahead!
With my warmest wishes

Michaela Lewis
Executive Headteacher

‘One Childhood, One Chance’



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