

Director of Children and Families
PO Box 837
Leeds
LS1 9PZ

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We are writing to express our huge thanks to **everyone** for your role in keeping our schools open in Leeds and for your care of the children who go to them.

All education staff are among the unsung heroes of this pandemic. Schools are complex organisations during 'normal' times and it takes many hard-working people to operate them. This task has been made even more challenging during the recent months. It is very clear to us that without the dedication, effort and enthusiasm of everyone playing their part - they simply couldn't function, particularly now as we navigate through the issues and problems raised by the corona virus. So.... whatever role you play in school....**this thank you is for you!**

Whether you drive children to school, have performed endless deep cleans, prepared hampers for families in need, made regular phone calls to check in on your pupils, or constantly updated your school website..... **this thank you is for you.**

If you have answered emails from concerned parents, read through pages of government advice, sent library books home or ensured your digital platform is working.... **this thank you is for you.**

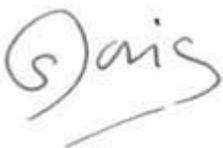
For those of you working to balance the budget, ordering wash basins, administering medicines, talking to troubled young people or invigilating autumn exams.... **this thank you is for you.**

I know there will be so many other roles in school which have gone unmentioned but are nonetheless, essential. **We thank each and every one of you.**

The challenges still remain but these past months have shown what can be achieved when we all work together with compassion, creativity and generosity.

I hope you get some time for rest and relaxation over the half term.

Kind regards



Saleem Tariq OBE
Director, Children and Families