



Friday 9 September 2022

Dear Parents, Carers and Staff

**RE. The sad passing of Her Majesty, The Queen**

Following the announcement of the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II on Thursday 8 September 2022, the Wessex Learning Trust would like to express our heartfelt and deepest condolences to the Royal Family and all who loved and cared for her. May she rest in peace.

The Department of Education have notified all schools to remain open during this period of national mourning. The Department has said further guidance will be sent to schools once final arrangements for national mourning and the funeral are confirmed. Updates will also be published by the Cabinet Office on gov.uk. We will update you as soon as we are able. Individual schools will communicate with their parents and carers regarding any changes to their calendar and events.

When suitable, schools across the Trust will mark the Queen's reign with events and tributes within their school community. These events will take place during tutor time, assemblies, and Church services where appropriate.

The Trust are acutely aware that the period of national mourning may cause some of our children, young people, families and staff anxiety and distress. I wish to assure you that the Wessex Learning Trust will continue to offer support to all during this incredibly sad time.

I leave you with a quote from a 14-year-old Princess Elizabeth, from her broadcast to the children of the Commonwealth in October 1940:

*"And when peace comes, remember it will be for us, the children of today,  
to make the world of tomorrow a better and happier place".*

Yours sincerely,

**Gavin Ball**  
Chief Executive