

4 September 2023

Dear Parent / Carer

Welcome to the beginning of the new academic year and an especially warm welcome for those who have children starting in an Anglian Learning school for the first time. My colleagues and I are very much looking forward to working with you over the next 12 months.

RAAC Update

When writing this letter, we had not expected the Department for Education (DfE) to make an announcement about RAAC. So I wanted to start by reassuring you about this. I am pleased to confirm that none of the schools within Anglian Learning have needed to close any buildings or put in place any additional measures. The one school in the Trust that does have RAAC, Joyce Frankland Academy, Newport, had substantial and extensive remedial work undertaken during the summer holiday, which engineers have confirmed addresses the concerns raised last week by the DfE. Therefore, all schools are opening as planned, and look forward to seeing your children this week.

About Anglian Learning

I thought it would be helpful to give a very brief overview of what Anglian Learning does to support your child's education. First and foremost, we are an educational, not-for-profit charitable trust, funded by the government, to provide education for children in the 16 schools that we operate, across Cambridgeshire, Suffolk, and Essex, including at Wimbish Primary Academy which opens this September as an Anglian Learning school.

What this means in practice is that the Trust is responsible for spending public money to deliver the best possible educational outcomes; employs just over 1000 members of staff in our schools; maintains and develops the buildings and grounds in each of the schools; and is ultimately responsible for the standard of education that pupils receive. The Trust also provides the support services – ICT, HR, Health and Safety and much more - that enable our headteachers and wider staff to focus on their core role: delivering the best possible experience for your child or children.

However, it is the school, rather than the Trust as a whole, that you will experience and communicate with on a day to day basis. The staff in those schools, led by the Headteacher or Principal, are our most valuable resource and the ones who will know your child best and work with commitment, skill and determination to ensure the best experience for them, supported by the training and development for staff that Anglian Learning provides.

Of course, at times you may have questions or concerns about the progress your child is making and wish to raise this with the staff; there may also be, on rare occasions, misunderstandings or matters that need to be resolved. Enabling a constructive, purposeful, and early resolution of these issues is critical. At the same time, the Trust is also mindful of the workload and wellbeing of staff, who may be dealing with a significant

Dynamic, empowered learners who thrive and lead in their communities: locally, nationally and globally.

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Anglian Learning is a Multi Academy Trust. Company registration number 07564749.



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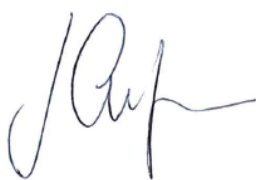
number of emails and other communications from parents and carers, and others over the course of a week.

We have therefore established common expectations across the Trust for communication between staff and parents:

- Emails, telephone messages, and letters received by staff should be acknowledged within two working days; more detailed responses within five working days.
- Emails sent to parents and carers, and others will not be sent outside of the normal school working day (8 am to 5.30 pm) and we ask parents and carers to adhere to this where possible as well. Where this is not possible, we would ask that parents and carers recognise that staff are not expected to send or reply to emails outside of this time.
- With 100s of emails received by our schools each week, to help provide a timely response, we would ask that emails are kept brief and succinct and directed to the most relevant member of staff in the first instance.
- We would ask that parents and carers avoid copying in several colleagues and the Headteacher, as this can slow response times by creating additional emails for colleagues to process.

Over the course of the year, Anglian Learning will be communicating with parents and carers on our website, social media, and other methods to keep you updated on our work to support our schools, alongside the more regular communications from the school your child(ren) attends. I also hope to see many of you at school events over the course of the year. In the meantime, I wish your child all the best in the first few days and weeks of the new term.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Culpin', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mr J Culpin
Chief Executive Officer