

29<sup>th</sup> June 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

The delay to the national roadmap and easing of restrictions has been disappointing for many of us, but it is very important to continue to reduce non-essential mixing until the end of term, whilst the national effort focuses on vaccinating as many people as possible.

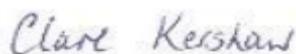
The main focus of schools and settings must be the education and wellbeing of their pupils and staff. Schools and settings have worked tirelessly since the beginning of the pandemic to ensure they remain a safe place and can continue to provide education for their pupils and students, whilst reducing the risk of contributing to rising case numbers in the community. There is guidance from the Department for Education, Public Health England and the Local Authority focused on this, which schools and settings must continue to adhere to.

For this reason, some schools and settings have cancelled or significantly amended the arrangements for events such as sports days, leavers assemblies and proms in line with their individual risk assessments and the protective measures they are able to keep in place. We fully support Headteachers to make these decisions in line with minimising mixing for the rest of term.

We ask that you please familiarise yourself with and adhere to school risk assessments and any event arrangements. If you have any questions or concerns, please speak to your child's school or setting in the first instance.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

With best wishes,



Clare Kershaw  
Director of Education  
Essex County Council



Mike Gogarty  
Director of Public Health and Wellbeing  
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