



# Coastal Alliance Co-operative Trust

## Standing Together, Together Outstanding

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Briary Primary School, Herne Bay High School, Herne Bay Infant School,  
Herne Bay Junior School, Herne Infant C of E School, Herne Junior C of E School,  
Joy Lane Primary School, Reculver C of E School, St Alphege CE Infant School,  
St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Swalecliffe Community Primary School,  
Westmeads Community Infant School, Whitstable & Seasalter Endowed C of E Junior School,  
Whitstable Junior School

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Ms D Hines, Chair  
Mr M Saunders, Vice Chair  
Mrs H Lambirth, Vice Chair

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Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

The CACOT family of schools have a message of hope, calm and optimism.

During these uncertain times with school closures and significant shifts away from normal routines, many people have expressed concerns about the impact on children's academic journeys. As we await guidance from the Government this week regarding the opening of schools we wish to reassure you that we are continuing to plan and work together as school communities in Herne Bay and Whitstable. Like you, we do not know the certainties of the future but what we can do is to stay calm, plan together, depend on the professional and community support which sustains and enriches us.

Headteachers are meeting (via a virtual platform) every week to continue to ensure we respond to Government advice consistently and strategically. Resources and ideas are shared and agreed, this is an excellent professional support group which impacts upon the communities and children in our care. It is also a great strength for us as Headteachers to have trusted colleagues supporting one another. When difficult and complex decisions have to be made it is vital that they are done so with discussion, consistency and strategic support.

We are asking you at this time to not worry and be overwhelmed by the situation that we are in. We are all in this together and when we are asked to return to school we wish to reassure you that any actions will be well thought out, discussed as a group of schools and agreed.

Transition is an area that you may well be concerned about. We understand that a well organised transition is essential for success. Therefore, we are currently discussing how we will arrange those very important transition opportunities for your children. We are talking to one another at every level, pre-school to Reception, in school changes, primary to secondary schools. Our duty is to serve our communities and put the needs of the children first and when we do return we will have agreed transition plans in place which will meet the needs of all our children.

We are so fortunate in the Herne Bay and Whitstable communities to have such a vibrant and effective group of schools who believe in collaboration, shared success and excellence for all!

As we move forward in the next few weeks we do so together!

**"The best thing to hold onto in life is each other!"**

Yours Sincerely,

*Headteachers of The Coastal Alliance Co-operative Trust Schools*

#StayAtHome#ProtectTheNHS#SaveLives