

ABBAY ACADEMIES TRUST
Executive Headteacher: Mrs S J Moore

15th June 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

At Abbey Academies Trust, we welcome those wishing to help in the school and value the contribution they make to school life. We believe that the involvement of parents, carers and volunteers in children's education is vital and we encourage active participation in many ways. Some volunteers come to school to help with a variety of tasks such as ICT, art, cooking, and especially reading. They usually work with individuals or small groups in specific classes. In addition, volunteers often help when the children are taken on educational visits outside school or get involved with the work of our PTFA.

The impact of Coronavirus and our 'live' COVID-19 risk assessment have meant that we have not been able to welcome volunteers into school since March 2020. We have taken the opportunity during this time to review our processes for recruiting volunteers in the hope that some of you will be able to play a part in supporting the children in our schools from September 2021. Our updated Volunteers in School Policy can be found on each school website.

As part of our commitment to safeguarding, and in line with recommendations from the most up to date *Keeping Children Safe in Education*, in order to be considered to be a volunteer in school you will need to complete a simple application form. Please ask at the school office or email the relevant school enquiries address for a form.

If you have volunteered in school before, we are asking that you still complete an application form as part of this new process. We will also ask you to complete an updated DBS check.

If you think you would be able to commit some time to helping us from September 2021, provided COVID-19 restrictions allow, we would love to receive an application from you. To allow us to make plans and allocate volunteers to year groups it would be helpful if you would let us have your form by Friday 25th June 2021. Forms will, of course, still be welcome after that date but we may not be able to complete our recruitment process in time for September.

Yours sincerely



Mrs S J Moore
Executive Headteacher