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All Staff Hackney Education settings

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21 July 2021

Dear Hackney Schools and Education Settings Members,

We write to thank you for your work during these last seventeen months. It has been one of the most challenging periods any of us can remember: we know that you and your colleagues will have been deeply affected personally and professionally by the pandemic.

For those of you who have lost friends, family or colleagues during the pandemic our thoughts are with you.

During the pandemic Hackney schools and settings have remained open to all our children when able to and always open to the most vulnerable. Many of you have also worked intensively to make sure the remote learning experience went very well. Due to your work our children have been well supported and educated during this time. But you have often done so much more, responding to ever changing guidance, introducing in school and setting testing, working with the wider community and supporting all our efforts to ensure no children, families or carers go hungry.

This is thanks to you: every staff member in a school or educational or caring setting has played a key role. We have heard from pupils and families time and again how much they have appreciated the role of their school, setting or college during this period. Thank you.

We have been able to visit some schools and settings over the past months and have heard about how well you are ensuring pupils catch up with any lost learning and that they are happy. It has also been wonderful to see so many schools and settings supporting transition and celebrating those graduating this year. It has been an impressive performance by all of you - whether you work directly with pupils or children, or whether you support those who do so.

We know the end of this term remains challenging, but as we look ahead we hope that you will have a deservedly good summer break and a calmer year ahead.

With all best wishes and thanks.

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Philip Glanville Mayor of Hackney

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Clir. Anntoinette Bramble Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Education, Young People and Children's Social Care

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