

COUNCILLOR IAN WARD LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

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Colleagues

As we write this, we are aware that today should have been the start of your well-deserved Easter break. We are sorry that is now not the case and wanted to thank you all for your continued efforts at a time when you were hoping to recharge your batteries.

The commitment and dedication shown by everyone from early years settings right the way through to post-16 providers and of course SEND colleagues has not come as a surprise to anyone who knows the sector, but nevertheless it deserves to be acknowledged.

So on behalf of the council and indeed the city, we want to thank you for everything that you are doing.

The way you teach and guide your pupils may be very different at the moment, but what has not changed is your innovative and enthusiastic approach to making learning accessible. We know that you are also continuing to support families in crisis across the city at a very challenging time.

The Birmingham response is very much a team effort and the way that you and your colleagues have pitched into that team effort has been nothing short of outstanding, especially at a time when you are also dealing with worries and concerns about coronavirus.

So, please pass this message of gratitude on to every single member of your teams. We're proud to stand alongside you at such a critical time.

Warm regards

Councillor Ian Ward

Leader of Birmingham City Council

Councillor Kate Booth

Cabinet Member for Children's Wellbeing

Councillor Jayne Francis

Cabinet Member for Education, Skills & Culture