

17 November 2020

John Morris, Executive Headteacher Ardleigh Green Learning Federation Ardleigh Green Road Hornchurch, RM11 2SP

### Dear John

Thank you for coming to meet with me today, I look forward to working with you and the community to ensure that the neighbourhood is safe. As you know I have worked in Havering for 15 years now and I am committed to the people of Havering having the best opportunities to live well, learn and access high quality education.

I understand that events yesterday must have been concerning to you and to the parents and children at Ardleigh Green Learning Federation. I can't comment too much because it is a police matter and the police are undertaking an investigation. However, the chase and capture were part of a planned operation with the police that was proactively initiated by the college in order to ensure that we are keeping the community safe. There have been some incidents on Ardleigh Green Road recently. Some where our students are victims and some where our students have behaved badly. All students that have been involved in violence have now been excluded and we have worked very closely with the police and local shops to identify and take action against any students that have caused problems or broken college rules.

Since Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November when we excluded some students who had been misbehaving there have not been any incidents reported, except for the chase yesterday which was part of our proactive work with the police. I am hopeful that we have now excluded the students that have been at the centre of any issues. However, we remain alert.

Yesterday I had a meeting with Chief Inspector Weedon to discuss strategies and the police have committed to providing officers to patrol Ardleigh Green Road. In addition we have arranged to have access to police bodycam footage, to identify any students that won't move on or are disruptive. Local shops have also agreed to share their CCTC footage with us.

I am delighted to say that we have appointed Ian Budge as Deputy Principal at Ardleigh Green. He is an expert on behaviour and discipline and will steer our strategies to improve student behaviour in the

# Ardleigh Green

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#### Rainham

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## Sixth Form

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#### Paul Wakeling

Principal Havering Colleges Group Deputy Principal New City College

Gerry McDonald Group Principal & CEO New City College

















community. We are writing to parents this week to emphasize the standards that we expect. We have also appointed a new Anti-Social Behaviour officer who will be patrolling on Ardleigh Green Road.

I chair regular community meetings, the next one is in December and it includes police, councillors, local community members and businesses. Karen Amos will send you an invite to the next one.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if there are any issues. I will do my best to resolve them and work on solutions with you. I will also regularly communicate with you regarding these issues.

Yours sincerely

Paul Wakeling

Group Deputy Principal and Principal - Havering Colleges

New City College Group