

July 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

As we reach the end of another successful academic year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support of your child's school and The Pioneer Academy.

Celebrating Our Pupils' Success

This year has been filled with achievement across our schools, and we are incredibly proud of all our pupils. Their hard work, determination and resilience have been reflected in the excellent outcomes achieved throughout the Trust.

Our Year 6 pupils have once again demonstrated what can be achieved through dedication and commitment. Across The Pioneer Academy, outcomes in Reading, Writing and Mathematics continue to compare favourably with national figures, reflecting the high-quality education and support provided in our schools.

We congratulate all our pupils and staff for their efforts and achievements this year.

Ofsted Updates

Two of our schools have been inspected by Ofsted under the new inspection framework during this academic year:

- **Ightham Primary School** – inspected on 23–24 June 2026
- **Downe Primary School** – inspected on 30 June–1 July 2026

The reports are expected to be published later this summer or at the beginning of September. We are extremely proud of both school communities and look forward to sharing the outcomes with you when they become available.

Expanding Opportunities for Pupils with SEND

Providing outstanding support for pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities remains a key priority for The Pioneer Academy.

From September, our SEND Units will be known as **Specialist Bases**, in line with Department for Education guidance. These provisions enable children with additional needs to attend their local school, access high-quality learning and participate fully in school life alongside their peers.

We are pleased to be continuing the growth of our Specialist Bases across the Trust. We currently have ten provisions operating across our schools, with a new base opening in September and several existing provisions expanding. We are also exploring opportunities to establish additional Specialist Bases, helping more children benefit from this inclusive approach.

Welcoming New Schools to The Pioneer Academy

This year we were delighted to welcome:

- **Robsack Wood Primary School** (Hastings)
- **Churchwood Primary School** (Hastings)

Both schools joined The Pioneer Academy in June 2026.

We are also looking forward to welcoming:

- **Coombe Road Primary School** (Brighton) in September 2026
- **Heavers Farm Primary School** (Croydon) in January 2027

We extend a warm welcome to the pupils, families and staff of these schools as they become part of our growing community.

Investing in Our School Environments

Over the summer holidays, a significant programme of building and refurbishment work will take place across many of our schools. These projects focus on improving the learning environment and enhancing pupils' daily experiences, including:

- Classroom refurbishments
- Improvements to pupil toilet facilities
- Enhancements to outdoor learning and play areas

One major project already completed this year has been the refurbishment and redevelopment of the EYFS and Year 1 teaching areas at **Red Hill Primary School**, creating an exciting learning environment for our youngest pupils.

Stay Connected

To see more of the wonderful learning, achievements and developments taking place across our schools, please follow The Pioneer Academy on social media:

- **Instagram:** @ThePioneer2011
- **Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/ThePioneerAcademyTPA>

Thank You

As another academic year comes to a close, I would like to thank all our parents and carers for the vital role you play in supporting your children's education. Working together with our dedicated staff, we continue to create schools where children are **Safe, Happy and Learning**.

We wish all our families a restful and enjoyable summer break and look forward to welcoming pupils back in September for another exciting year.

Yours faithfully,



Lee Mason-Ellis OBE
Chief Executive Officer
The Pioneer Academy

