



**Baroness Berridge of the Vale of Catmose**

Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the School System  
Sanctuary Buildings Great Smith Street Westminster London SW1P 3BT  
tel: 0370 000 2288 [www.education.gov.uk/help/contactus](http://www.education.gov.uk/help/contactus)

Tony Bowles  
Invictus Education Trust  
Ward House  
Himley Park  
Dudley  
DY3 4DF

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Dear Mr Bowles,

I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank you and your colleagues in the Invictus Education Trust for the work you have been doing to support your local community during this difficult time.

The Regional Schools Commissioner, Andrew Warren, has highlighted your brilliant work to me, including supporting local primary schools in Dudley in their response to lockdown and re-opening, following the Covid-19 outbreak. I understand you have also developed a successful online learning platform which pupils and parents have provided positive feedback on and which, importantly, has ensured strong engagement of your pupils during the lockdown period. Your support for more vulnerable pupils who may not have had access to the required technology to engage with online learning has been noted, in addition to the work you are doing to support online transitions for those pupils in Year 6 who will be moving into Year 7 in September.

This support, along with remaining open throughout this period for the children of key workers and those who are vulnerable, has no doubt played a vital part in supporting the local community.

I would like to wish you and the schools in your Trust all the best as we move forward over the next few weeks and months and thank you again for making a difference in your community and for your pupils.

**ELIZABETH BERRIDGE**

**PARLIAMENTARY UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE**