

**ABBAY ACADEMIES TRUST**  
**Executive Headteacher: Mrs S J Moore**

12<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you know, in pre-pandemic times and as part of our Healthy Schools initiative, we provided all of our pupils with a named water bottle and access to unlimited fresh, filtered water.

You will also be aware from our 'Frequently Asked Questions' that since the first school closure in March 2020 and in line with our 'live' COVID-19 risk assessment, we asked parents/carers to send children in with a named water bottle of their choice each day.

We are mindful that some concerns have been raised as we have recently reminded pupils that their bottles should only contain water and not juice. As a Trust we acknowledge the importance of water for overall health and a well-balanced diet. Staying hydrated helps children stay alert and focused, can keep their bodies at a safe and healthy temperature, and may improve cognitive functioning. It is therefore our policy that children may have access to water and not juice during lesson time.

Having reviewed our live risk assessment and in line with DfE guidance, we believe that we can safely return to our normal practice of providing named water bottles in school. Each child will therefore be provided with a new bottle from Monday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2021 and parents and carers need then only send a drink in for lunchtime.

In line with DfE requirements milk is also available in school – this is free for Under 5s and available to order at a small cost for older pupils. For further details please contact the school office.

Thank you for your support and understanding.

Yours sincerely



Mrs S J Moore  
Executive Headteacher