

FAO Parents/Carers
Initio Learning Trust Schools
letter by email

17th July 2026

Dear Parents and Carers



Since stepping into the role of Interim CEO in April, and the last time I wrote to you, my first 100 days have focused on listening closely to our school communities. Thank you all for your engagement and feedback, it has been incredibly helpful in shaping our future. The term has gone quickly and I wanted to share with you the successes, the progress we made this term and our priorities for next year.

Our nineteen schools have been exceptionally busy (and warm!) this term with exams, performances, sports days and everything in between. It has been incredible to see the levels of engagement and celebrations across the trust. My personal highlights have been the year 4 Wimborne leavers service in the Minster and the launch of the 'Cradle to Career' programme in Bridport.

Here are some of the successes our children have had this term:

- **Achievement:** Our children have flourished in their achievement: Children in reception demonstrated a great start to their education journey with high achievement in their good level of development. Our Year 1 phonics results improved for another consecutive year. Our Year 4 multiplication checks results were record-breaking. Our Year 6 SATS results improved again, placing us at the top of the league tables. While we await our Year 11 and 13 exam results in August, I know they have worked incredibly hard.
- **Character development:** Summer term is often a time for taking learning beyond the curriculum and it has been great to see so many residentials, trips, visitors in school and projects taking place.
- **Sense of belonging:** We've been working really hard on our sense of belonging and school membership this year and it has been great to talk to the children about this as I have visited schools. This is evident in their attendance, which has shown an impressive improvement this year. Thank you for all of your support with this.

As a trust we have set budgets to build a stronger, more resilient platform for our schools to flourish, securing our future and ensuring we are providing excellent services to our schools that are value for money. Whilst pupil numbers fall across the country and government funding does not meet rising costs, we have reduced our central budget by 20% to ensure that more of our money stays in our classrooms. We have been working hard to respond to several government initiatives such as the mobile phone guidance, enrichment framework, changes to pupil premium eligibility and delivering the requirement of the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) reforms, ready for September.

Allenbourn Middle School • Bridport Primary School • Burton Bradstock CE Primary School • Colehill First School • Corfe Hills School
Emmanuel CE Middle School • Hayeswood First School • Hillside First School • Lockyer's Middle School • Merley First School
Pamphill CE First School • Queen Elizabeth's School • St John's CE First School • St Mary's CE Primary School • St Mary's CE First School
St Michael's CE Middle School • The Sir John Colfox Academy • Verwood CE First School • Witchampton CE First School



Next year we look forward to some exciting developments:

- Opening Specialist Resourced Provisions (SRPs) in some of our schools.
- Opening our new 3G pitch and paddle courts at Corfe Hills School
- LED lighting installments across the trust to reduce our energy costs and move us closer to our Net-Zero targets
- Chromebook rollouts to all our schools joining the Google platform

Furthermore, we have been developing our short-term strategy with a focus on 2027, and we intend to dedicate more time next year to looking further ahead. We will be launching our new strategic plan in the new academic year and we will be able to share more of the details then. Our values of **Ambition**, **Collaboration** and **Respect** remain the same, although we have worked hard to define these and bring them to life. Our Vision has been simplified to **'Everyone Flourishing'**, unpacking this into three strategic themes: **Children flourishing**, **Adults flourishing** and **Communities flourishing**.

Thank you for your continued support, engagement, and partnership as we work together to ensure every child in our trust is equipped to succeed. I wish you and your family a wonderful summer break and look forward to writing again next term.

Best wishes

Brian Boyes
Interim CEO