



# Ark Burlington Danes Academy

**“Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world.”**

*Nelson Mandela*

**"Nobody's free until everybody's free."**

*Fannie Lou Hamer*

Dear parents and carers,

We hope you and your families are keeping well and that your child has made a good start to their home learning this week.

It is with deep sadness that we have observed recent events in the United States. The tragic murder of George Floyd has been deeply shocking and upsetting, and it holds a particular resonance with us at BDA as so many of our staff and families are black and minority ethnic. We stand united with those who engage in peaceful protest and feel the pain of those who experience prejudice and discrimination due to the colour of their skin. As a school and a community, we state with one voice that Black Lives Matter.

There is a temptation to look at the events in America and ignore the inequalities in our own society. Yet the present pandemic has shown that structural inequality exists in Britain too – the fact that our black and minority ethnic families are so disproportionately affected by Covid-19 demonstrates this all too clearly. The pandemic and the murder of George Floyd remind us that we have a long journey ahead of us to build a society that is fair and just to all. This remains the great mission of our lifetime and is one that we commit to fully.

Next week we will be writing to you about our plans for reopening the school. We have been working hard to ensure that we can do so in the safest way possible, prioritising the wellbeing of our staff, students and families. We are reminded of the importance of education as the greatest lever in fighting inequality, and I know we are united in ensuring that our children are educated to their fullest potential so they can be the agents of change our society desperately needs.

My thoughts and prayers are with our staff, children and families. We look forward to welcoming you back to the classroom in the near future.

With kindest regards,

Mr Bhatia  
Principal  
Ark Burlington Danes Academy

***"I have come that you may have life, and have it in all its fullness."***

*John 10:10*

*At Ark Burlington Danes Academy, we believe that everyone deserves to be accepted, included and empowered to live a life that is purposeful and fulfilling.*

*Through learning to our fullest potential and living a life filled with kindness and thankfulness, we can be the ones to make the world a better place.*

**Ark Burlington Danes Academy**

Wood Lane London W12 0HR

T +44 (0)20 8735 4950 F +44 (0)20 8740 5659

[burlingtondanes.org](http://burlingtondanes.org)