

Headteacher  
Mrs S Yates



Chair of Trustees  
Mr M Hill

## The Blue Coat School

An Academy 'Leaders in Science and Mathematics'

Church Road Wavertree Liverpool L15 9EE

Telephone: 0151 733 1407

8<sup>th</sup> July 2020

Dear School community,

As you are aware the Trust Board, the Blue Coat School (BCS) and others are considering how best to respond to two petitions that have called for the removal of the name of one of our founders Bryan Blundell to be removed as a "House name" and from a suite named after him.

As a first response, we wrote to all interested parties, alerting them to the existence of the petitions but also inviting views both on the issue itself but also on a possible way forward.

As could probably have been anticipated the responses have been wide and varied but if there has been one consistent message it is that before any actions are taken the whole history of Bryan Blundell and any apparent connections he may have had to the slave trade must be examined in detail. It is only then that an informed, transparent and objective decision can be reached.

To that end, since receiving the petitions we have contacted a number of individuals, who have each offered to assist in shedding light on this part of our history. In addition, distant relatives of Blundell contacted us to discuss the matter.

We are anxious to move this on quickly. We therefore intend to convene a small working group. The working group will be led by the BCS and have representatives of the students, staff and all others who have close interest in the school, both in historical terms but also in its future. We hope to arrange the first meeting in early next term.

Please be assured that we are all committed to addressing this issue in an open and informed way and we will write again before the start of the next school year in September to update you all on how those plans are developing and hopefully some clear indication of the timescales and more precise arrangements to help address these important issues.

Yours faithfully

Chair of Trust Board

Headteacher

