## KSR/KCO

21 February 2018



CEO: Kevin Sadler Deputy CEO: Viki Reid

Dear Sirs,

The Gateway Learning Community Trust is a multi-academy trust of five, Tilbury and Chadwell-St- Mary, schools that include four Primary and one Secondary. The GLC's steering group has discussed the Tilbury 2 proposal taking into account the current information available and has agreed to fully endorse this initiative. We believe that the Tilbury 2 project will further strengthen the Port of Tilbury which in turn will continue to provide support for the wider community.

Over many years the Port of Tilbury has been proactive in working with the GLC to support the education provision for all local children, many of whom come from disadvantaged back grounds.

## This has included:

- Colleagues from the Port of Tilbury visiting the Gateway Academy to work with Year 10 pupils; providing careers advice, support with CV writing and mock interviews in preparation of the year 10 work experience.
- The Port has provided many opportunities for Year 10 pupils to complete their two week work placements, to help raise their aspirations and give them a better understanding of the world of work.
- Colleagues from the port of tilbury have worked intensively each year with a group of students who have entered Thurrock's next Top Boss competition. This year the focus of their work has centred around the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Windrush, which saw migrants from Jamaica entering the UK via Tilbury.
- We are in conversations with the Port of Tilbury on their behest to develop sponsorship for a number of students from post 16 provision through to further and higher education, with the ultimate aim of securing a position at the Port of Tilbury.
- The Port has provided invaluable support through its procurement department to support GLC schools to achieve significant reductions in the cost of utilities. These savings have enabled schools to further enhance the provision for children in the classroom with increased resources.
- The Port of Tilbury has secured funding to provide Lego therapy resources for some of the most vulnerable pupils in our schools. This has provided an additional strategy that otherwise would be unaffordable and is being used effectively to reduce the barriers to academic progress for these students.

In conclusion the GLC steering group wanted to stress that outside support can often be tokenistic but in the case of the Port of Tilbury we believe that their support comes from a deeply held philosophy that a strong Port of Tilbury can be a catalyst for community improvement. It is because of this and our long standing partnership that we are confident that the Tilbury 2 proposal will provide far reaching benefits for all of the community.

Yours sincerely
Kevin Sadler

Improving upon our best