



Dear Parents,

We hope that you are all keeping well. We are writing to outline our plans to make provision for the increased number of children of key workers and vulnerable families in accordance with the new government guidance from Monday 1st June. Thank you to those who completed the survey.

There is still national uncertainty about whether schools will open across England from 1st June. We are waiting to hear about the scientific evidence and any subsequent government announcement. At Oakfield Academy we have been very busy making plans in case it is deemed possible for schools to open for more pupils.

We would like to thank those of you who have taken the time to contact the academy to offer support and understanding of the difficulty schools are being faced with. As ever, we are so privileged to be surrounded by people who display kindness so readily.

We have carried out a number of risk assessments in line with County, Union and Government advice and with the size of our classrooms, it is clear that we will have to keep numbers of children to a maximum of 8 per classroom, not the 15 suggested by the government, to try to maintain 2 metres social distancing. We will endeavour to keep the children 2 metres apart whilst they are in the classroom and as they move around school, however, we understand the children will find this challenging, especially when they have missed seeing their friends so much!

In order for us to manage our school capacity, children of key workers will be offered a full time place. Children from vulnerable families will be allocated a specific number of days each week. Key workers who have notified the academy have been allocated a place for their child from Monday 1st June. If your child is not attending school on any day, please report this via our attendance email or telephone the academy office. Little Lessons will continue to be provided for those children not attending school. We will endeavour to provide the same style of work which will continue to be uploaded to the website every week.

We have put the following measures in place:

- We will be open from 1st June to an increased number of key worker children and children from vulnerable families. During this week, we will review whether it is possible to further increase provision.
- We are not able to offer wrap around care, therefore breakfast club and after school clubs will not be running.
- Please encourage your child to walk to school and do not share lifts, observing social distancing guidance.
- We have undertaken increased cleaning throughout the school and this will continue twice a day.
- Pupils will arrive and leave school via 2 entrances:
 - RED** gate for Years 5, 7, FLG and S&G
 - SILVER** gate for Years 6 and 8.
- Utilising outdoor space which will be organised for playtimes and outdoor learning opportunities.
- Only 1 adult may pick up a child from school. Please wait considerately observing social distancing guidance.
- Regular handwashing has been timetabled into the school day. Hand sanitiser will be available in every class. Please remind your child about the importance of hand washing and the 'Catch it, Bin it, Kill it' approach.
- As previously mentioned, we will implement smaller class sizes to a maximum of 8.
- Each group of 8 will stay together and not mix with other pupils in school. School staff will plan these groups, taking into account their knowledge of the children and their friendships, and we are unable to take any requests for groupings.
- Please note that due to the need for social distancing and for pupil and staff safety, pupils who would normally have 1:1 support may not have access to this at the present time.
- If a pupil falls ill or we suspect they have come into school suffering with the virus they will be isolated from others until collected. It is important you can collect your child within 45 minutes of being notified.



- Water fountains will be out of use.
- Pupils are not expected to wear school uniform as they need to wear clean clothes every day
- Pupils must **ONLY** bring their lunchbox and water bottle to school and these must be taken home daily so they can be thoroughly cleaned. No other items must be brought into school such as bags, pencil cases and mobile phones.

The school day:

Arrive 9am

Finish 3pm

Please ensure your child doesn't arrive more than 5 minutes early for the start of the school day as we do not want to encourage the pupils to wait in large groups outside of school.

On arrival your child needs to go straight to their Year Group area:

Year 5 – Year 5 block

Year 6 – Year 6 corridor (through the second doors by 6R)

Year 7 – Library corridor (through the second door near the girls toilets)

Year 8 – Taylor Centre

Pupils must not gather in groups on the playground. Your child will be met by their Head of Year outside their year group area; they will direct them to their allocated classroom.

Your child will spend the school day in their allocated classroom including lunch time. Please provide a packed lunch for your child, breaktime snack and plenty to drink. Pupils who are entitled to free school meals will need to bring in a packed lunch as vouchers will continue to be provided. Break times will be staggered to avoid contact with other groups. The timings for lunch will remain the same but outside playing time will be staggered.

We cannot guarantee that your child will be with their tutor as we are using all teaching staff to cover the school and they may not be with all of their friends. It is also possible that your child will not be in their original classroom, as we have had to utilise every classroom to ensure children are not mixing in larger groups. We will provide them with their own tray and stationery and when in class they will be encouraged to keep 2 metre distances at all times.

Reception will be closed to parents and all communication must be via email or telephone unless by prior arrangement.

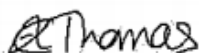
Many of the parents we have spoken to have mentioned that their children are missing their friends and we are under no illusions that most of the children want to come back for the social aspect rather than the academic! However, this is not a normal situation. School won't feel like school and being very realistic, we have to prepare the children for that. They may not be with all of their friends as they will only be able to mix with children in their group of 8. As mentioned previously, we will be spending time discussing the children's thoughts and feelings and supporting them with their mental health and I ask you to start this process by managing your child's expectations prior to 1st June.

If your child displays symptoms of Covid-19 they **must not** attend school. Symptoms of Covid-19 are;

- High temperature
- Persistent cough
- Loss of taste or smell
- Shortness of breath

If you are in any doubt, do not send your child to school and seek medical advice. You may find the following link useful: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

Wishing you a lovely half term break




Miss E. Wilkes
Head teacher

Mrs E. Thomas
Deputy Head teacher

Mr D. Mcgrath
Deputy Head teacher

Mrs C. Cross
Assistant Headteacher

Mrs S. Wells
Business Manager