



Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parent,

I hope this letter finds you and your families well.

Please can you help...

If you find that other Oakfield families have not been emailed this letter, please ask them to contact the academy office to update their email addresses as this is our main form of communication and we don't want them to miss anything!

Following recent advice from the Government and Public Health England regarding the COVID-19 outbreak, I am writing to update you on our position.

**Governmental advice is now published as:**

If you or anyone in your household have symptoms of coronavirus, then all household members must stay at home and not leave the house for **14 days**. The 14-day period starts from the day when the first person in the house became ill.

Please see the following link for more detail and for those who are classed as vulnerable:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/topical-events/coronavirus-covid-19-uk-government-response>

and please see this guidance if you need to stay at home:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance>

Whilst we are doing everything possible to keep open, I know you'll appreciate that this advice has also affected our staff, some of whom are in self-isolation, and we may deliver alternative curriculum days and classes may have different teachers.

**Learning Activities**

If you have to be at home, we have suggested activities and links for continuing learning on our website.

Many subjects use online resources for homework and to help support learning in the classroom so it is important that pupils know their username and passwords. All these facilities and links can be found on the [\*Little Lessons\*](#) and

<https://www.oakfieldacademy.co.uk/pupils/scholarship-greater-depth> pages on the website.

Alongside this we would encourage that pupils read for at least an hour a day as this will support them in their literacy skills. Sometimes activities such as family board games; discussions around new articles from Newsround, <https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround>, painting or drawing; viewing and discussing films; walking or even in-house karaoke(!) can all benefit pupils if they find themselves learning from home.

**The National Trust** have opened parklands and gardens for free during coronavirus social distancing period, please see link below:

[https://www.discoverwildlife.com/news/national-trust-free-coronavirus/?fbclid=IwAR1gDBnMzK\\_8c4eL\\_gIHzhS0cYNGWnL-7vatKMR812bcJwoimbRIpJUzp1Q](https://www.discoverwildlife.com/news/national-trust-free-coronavirus/?fbclid=IwAR1gDBnMzK_8c4eL_gIHzhS0cYNGWnL-7vatKMR812bcJwoimbRIpJUzp1Q)

Regarding pupil absence from the academy we understand that penalty notices have been suspended by the Local Authority. We will not, therefore pursue any penalty notices for absences relating to the coronavirus.



In the event of closure the school will continually update the website and Facebook page of any further developments. Any communications to the academy regarding your child must be through the school office email address only; [oakfieldacademy@educ.somerset.gov.uk](mailto:oakfieldacademy@educ.somerset.gov.uk)

Please be aware not all emails can be responded to individually due to high demand and reduced staffing levels please check our website and Facebook page and your emails via Parent Pay for information.

These are challenging circumstances for all of us and I ask for your patience with staff who are doing everything possible for your child's education.

Given the uncertainty at this time for future trips, music lessons and swimming, we are **pausing all payments** and we will come back to you when we have more information.

1. **School photographs for Years 6 7 and 8 this week are postponed – new date to follow.**
2. **Year of the Bassoon event at Jackdaws – 24 March – cancelled.**
3. **SS Gt Britain trip 26 March – postponed, new date to follow.**
4. **All PE/Sporting fixtures (including after school clubs) cancelled until further notice.**
5. **Shakespeare Club cancelled until further notice.**
6. **Wizard of Oz Club cancelled until further notice.**
7. **All cooking lessons have been suspended, no need to try and get ingredients!**
8. **All swimming activities cancelled.**

**Free School Meals link** – How to apply if you believe you may become eligible!

[https://secure1.somerset.gov.uk/forms/PortalShowForm.asp?fm\\_formalias=freeschoolmeal](https://secure1.somerset.gov.uk/forms/PortalShowForm.asp?fm_formalias=freeschoolmeal)

**Frome Town Council** have listed sources of help and advice here:

<https://www.frometowncouncil.gov.uk/coronavirus-faqs/>

Thank you all for your patience and support at this unprecedented time.

Yours Sincerely,



Miss Emma Wilkes  
Headteacher