



Oakdene Primary School

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September School Re-Opening Update

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope this letter finds you all safe and well.

Following on from my previous letter, I wanted to give you all some **further information** regarding the September re-opening of Oakdene primary School and the **measures** we have and will be putting in place to **mitigate risk**. Please read this letter in conjunction with the **Stay Safe Parent/Carer Information Pack** plus the previous letter dated 2nd July so that you have all the information.

I have used the **adult/child hand icon** to highlight any parts that might be useful to talk about with your child/ren in order to begin to prepare them for September.

The safety of pupils and staff is our primary concern in this planning process and will remain so throughout.

The school's risk assessment for re-opening to all pupils will be published on the website before re-opening.

These measures below are in line with Government, DfE and PHE guidelines.

1.	<p><u>Signage</u> Please look out for the signs around the building both internally and externally. They are there to keep our community safe. Please follow the instructions on them to help keep everyone safe and help us by talking to your children about the signs and what they mean e.g. reminding people that social distancing is being practiced in and around school where reasonably possible. Signs will also direct parents/carers where needed for entrances and exits of classes plus the one way system. Marshalls wearing high visibility vest/jackets will be available for the first week to ensure that you are guided.</p>	
2.	<p><u>Staggered Start and Finish Times</u> In order to ensure the safety of our whole community we have staggered the start times for all year groups that will be attending from Wednesday 2nd September 2020. See pages 6 & 7 of the Stay Safe Parent/Carer Information Pack Most children will enter the school building using the doors they used for the previous school year up to March 2020.</p>	

3.	<p><u>Drop off and Collection Doors</u></p> <p>Each class will be using a separate numbered door to enter the building. Please follow the signs to ensure your child can access the correct part of the building.</p> <p>Please note that we will not be allowing parents past the drop off zones. If you have a message for your child's teacher please use the class teacher email or call 01642 560768</p> <p>Please use clearly marked spots/areas for pupil collection at the end of the day to support social distancing where and when needed.</p> <p>See pages 6 & 7 of the Stay Safe Parent/Carer Information Pack</p>	
4.	<p>No parents/carers are permitted into the school building. During this time, there will be no opportunities for face to face meetings with teachers or leaders. If you have any messages or question for staff we ask that you use the Oakdene email/class teacher email or phone 01642 560768. See page 3 of the Stay Safe Parent/Carer Information Pack</p> <p>There will be no open days or events for parents/carers until we feel it is safe to do so.</p>	
5.	<p>New Rights Respecting Charters</p> <p>All staff will be verbally promoting and modelling social distancing where it is reasonable to do so. Expectations and new 'rules' will be shared with children on the first day back.</p>	
6.	<p>Shared areas of the school will have a limited number of pupils/adults in at any one time e.g. toilets, cloakrooms.</p>	
7.	<p>Classrooms/teaching spaces will be organised to minimise risk e.g. tables facing the front where reasonable to do so for teaching and learning. Teachers will move the tables to suit the needs of the lesson and learning as well as mitigating risk. Outdoor classrooms will be used even more frequently.</p>	
8.	<p>Systems are in place to ensure movement will be minimised around school. For example art and DT will be taught in the classroom rather than our designated art area. Children and adults will stay within their class 'bubble' as much as possible.</p>	
9.	<p>Children will only need to bring in essential items to school. See pages 6 & 7 of the Stay Safe Parent/Carer Information Pack</p> <p>Frequently used class resources will be given to pupils and kept in their individual plastic packet/tray to reduce sharing e.g. pencil, ruler, whiteboard. Children MUST NOT bring in any resources from home.</p>	
10.	<p>Large gatherings such as assemblies will continue to be suspended. Celebrations will still take place every Friday – within classrooms.</p>	
11.	<p>Playtimes and lunchtimes will be staggered. See page 9 of the Stay Safe Parent/Carer Information Pack</p> <p>Children to remain in their 'bubbles' and will not mix. Each bubble will have its own play equipment box.</p>	

12.	<p>Lunchtime The two large halls (dining hall and main hall) will be organised into 4 zones (2 in each hall) to seat four class bubbles at a time – without mixing them. Bubbles will keep to their own area of the dinner hall and tables wiped down in between bubble use.</p> <p>There will be hot lunches available as well as a packed ‘grab bag’ option. Children will order their lunch at the start of the day in class with their teacher. See page 9 of the Stay Safe Parent/Carer Information Pack</p>	
13.	Relevant PPE will be used by First Aiders when caring for ill or injured pupils/adults and if intimate care is required (changing).	
14.	<p>Children will only need to bring in essential items to school. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Book Bag (needed to carry reading book) ✓ Lunch Box (if on packed lunches) ✓ Water Bottle containing water ✓ Coat / Jacket <p>See pages 8 & 9 of the Stay Safe Parent/Carer Information Pack</p>	
15.	<p>On entry to school, children will be washing their hands, using sanitiser and stringent handwashing will be repeated throughout the day. Hygiene stations and snuffle stations are located in each classroom/teaching area - hand sanitiser and tissues will be in each classroom.</p> <p>Children will be taught and reminded about good hygiene and will regularly wash their hands with high quality antibacterial soap. They will also be taught and reminded about ‘catch it, bin it, kill it’ for tissues etc.</p> <p>See page 8 of the Stay Safe Parent/Carer Information Pack</p>	

Supporting our children and families on their return to school

We do not underestimate how difficult the recent months have been for everyone and we recognise the need to focus on pupils’ emotional wellbeing as well as their return to learning. Our teachers will continue to communicate with you regularly and to meet the individual needs of your child with the same care and concern they have always done.

A broad and balanced curriculum will continue to be taught and children’s individual learning needs will be met.

Thank you

On behalf of all our school staff, I would like to thank each of you for your wonderful support during the past four months. Your commitment to working in partnership with us on home learning has been commendable and we have been so impressed with the high quality of work our children have completed. Thank you for sharing your child’s work from home with us this week – we are very proud of all our children. Equally, for those children of Key Workers who have been with us throughout lockdown – your children have been excellent also. As a community, everyone is to be congratulated on the way in which they have worked together to be so supportive.

I would also like to say a HUGE thank you to all our staff at Oakdene Primary who have worked tirelessly over this whole period. We have been open throughout holiday periods etc.

Among many things, they have been:

- ✓ Offering home learning on Teams daily.
- ✓ Making contact with families.
- ✓ Visiting homes with handy home resources/interim reports/door step visits.
- ✓ Delivering food parcels and essential packs donated by charities.
- ✓ Teaching the children of our Key Workers in school daily.
- ✓ Supporting parents/carers.
- ✓ Signposting to mental health services

Over the summer break if there are any changes to our plans, I will keep you updated using Website 'news' and Marvellous Me notifications.

PD Day

We have scheduled a PD day for Tuesday 29th September 2020 so please make a note of this on your calendars. Please see our website for full information on the term dates for the year. www.oakdenprimary.org.uk go to the About Us section and choose School Term Dates.

Wishing you well for the summer

Many thanks for your good wishes and very kind gifts as we mark the end of the school year. All the staff join with me in wishing you a good summer break, with the return of some sunshine!

We are really looking forward to welcoming everyone back on Wednesday 2nd September! We've missed you!

With very best wishes

Mrs E. Bramley
Executive Head Teacher