



# Oakwood Primary Academy



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Dear Parents and Carers,

We want to thank you all in this very unusual time, for the support you have provided to working with your children.

As of the 8<sup>th</sup> June we will be starting to welcome back some of you to the school setting. In doing this, many considerations have been given to the way in which this is done, to ensure the safety and well-being of your child and the staff.

Following the guidance from the Government and Public Health England, as well as in conjunction with the local authority and our board of trustees, we are able to share that initially we are able to offer places to those that have been requested in Reception and Year 1.

In order to ensure that schooling can be provided for all children in these year groups, we will have to rota the attendance of children. For those parents who have already indicated that their child will be returning to school this will take place on Monday and Tuesday each week and will be normal school hours (8.45am until 3.15pm). There will be no provision for breakfast club. Whilst your child will only be attending school for 2 days, staff will continue to provide learning opportunities via Eschools for you to do with your child at home. For those of you who are not attending school, the teaching undertaken in school will be provided to your child via Eschools to complete and return.

Children from reception or year 1 will be asked to enter the school in different places, to minimise contact, and clear marking have been placed to support all parents and children in this. The schools' car park will be closed and children should be brought in on this side of the building. Educare children will enter through the Community Entrance, Reception children will enter via the main entrance doors and Year 1 will enter via the bottom gate, walking on the path along to the year 1 pod doors. Staff will be on hand to support this. Where possible, we ask that only one parent brings the children to school and that all children must be collected by an adult at the end of the day, from the same point at which you dropped off, to ensure social distancing. Children will then be part of a group which will remain consistent for the time that they are in school. Playtimes and lunchtimes will be staggered so that children can remain in these groups (they will eat together and play together).

Children in reception and Year 1 will still be entitled to their FSM but you can provide a packed lunch for your child if you prefer. We would request that children

bring in as few items into school as possible. In sunny weather this could be a packed lunch, hat and a personal water bottle. Social distancing for our youngest children is not practicable and we have followed the guidelines to ensure that our systems in school minimise this where possible.








Children not in EYFS will have classrooms which have been adjusted to ensure that safe distancing is in place, they will have their own resources, play in small groups and regular cleaning systems have been put into place. Throughout the day all children will be required to wash their hands regularly and it would be helpful if you could practise this with them.

If any child displays symptoms of COVID-19 then we will immediately contact you to come and collect them. We have dedicated spaces which will be staffed appropriately to minimise any contact that they might have with any of the staff community.

All children will need to wear school uniform and will not currently be required to bring in a PE kit. Our Managing and supporting positive behaviour policy has been amended to incorporate new health and safety expectations for all our school community. We will be taking time to talk to the children about the revised expectations around social distancing when they come into school. Any breach of this will be taken extremely seriously and we will be asking parents to support us in this.

In the meantime, there are some things that you can do to support your child in understanding that school will be a little different. You may want to share this social story with your children at home.

**Why is school different?**

	School is different at the moment.
	Some children are staying at home.
	Some children are going to school.
	I might go to a different school.
	I might do different things.
	I might see different children.
	This is ok. It is not forever.

We understand that both you and your children may have a variety of feelings about returning to school and so have created a resource which can be found on the school website to support your family.

**Some practical things to try:**

- Start a morning routine a week before school starts.
- Limit screen time.
- Use language such as “when you go to school”.
- Use visual aids such as calendars to count down to school starting.
- If your child does not want to leave the house (before the day of your return) take short trips out which build up in time.
- Eating at set times.
- Good sleep routine.
- Being positive.
- Daily exercise.
- Stay calm. Use your support network to help you at this difficult time – This could be FSA, school staff.

We are very much looking forward to welcoming children back to Oakwood and whilst it will not look and feel like normal school, I can assure you we will do our utmost to ensure that this transition is as supportive as it can be for you and your child.

Kind regards



Mrs J Sparrow  
Head of School