



Oyster Park Primary Academy

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Headteacher: Mrs J Chapman-Kemp

Website: www.oysterpark.co.uk

Email: admin@oysterpark.co.uk

Oyster Park Primary Academy, Watling Road, Ferry Fryston, Castleford, WF10 3SN Telephone: 01977 515994

Planned Re Opening of School to Key Year Groups – Year 1

26th May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Following the Government's recent announcement to reopen schools on a phased return from June 1st, we have been making the necessary plans to ensure that school is safe for our children, families and staff. The expectation is that on Monday 1st June children in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 will return along with children of Key Workers and those children classed as vulnerable. The Government is then hoping that all other primary year groups will return to school before the end of the Summer Term.

Our main priority is the safety of our children, families and staff and as I am sure you will appreciate this is made more difficult by the many unknowns and uncertainties that still exist around the Covid-19 virus. I can reassure you, that you will not be penalised if you **do not** want to send your child into school at this time. We welcome the opportunity to work with students in readiness for September, but fully support that this is your decision based on your personal circumstances.

At this current time, from our initial risk assessments, **we cannot safely cater for ALL pupils in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6, along with key worker children on a full time basis from June 1st.** This is mainly due to the space we have available in the rooms that we have. Our classrooms will only safely cope with between 8 – 15 children in them (year group dependant), whilst maintaining the Governments guidance of a recommended 2 metres of social distance between children and staff in Year 6.

School will open for **Year 1** children on **Monday's and Tuesday's only beginning Monday 1st June 2020.** The school day will **start at 8:50 am** and will **finish promptly at 2:45pm.**

Only one parent/carer will be permitted to accompany their child onto school grounds for drop off and collection this is to support social distancing and to limit the number of people on the site. Children will not be permitted to bring anything from home other than a coat or lunch box and children are to come to school in **non-school uniform.**

Entrance onto school grounds and drop off procedures

Entrance onto school grounds will be via the main electronic pedestrian gate and a one-way system operated around the perimeter of the building. In line with government guidance **2-metre markers** will be in place to support social distancing and signage to support directing foot flow. Parents and carers will be expected to adhere to the social distance measures put in place on our school site. For drop off, Year 1 parents will be asked to walk along the path from the main pedestrian gate and to continue along the path that leads towards Main Reception. Parents will need to follow the signage directing along the path outside the school hall, past the school kitchen to the school playground. Parents will be greeted by a member of staff who will be positioned outside the Year 1 classroom doors. To adhere to social distancing measures, the children in Year 1 will be split into groupings and allocated a classroom which will be either Miss Tonks, Mrs Coomber's, Miss Brannon's or Miss Arnold's (this will be during arrival on the first day so parents are aware of which classroom their child needs collecting from). Parents will be asked to the exit

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school grounds following the one-way system across the school playground to the pedestrian gate located at the bottom of the playground.

Collection procedures for Year 1

Entrance onto school grounds will be via the main electronic pedestrian gate and a one-way system operated around the perimeter of the building. In line with government guidance, **2-metre markers** will be in place to support social distancing and signage to support directing foot flow. For collection, Parents and carers will be expected to adhere to the social distancing guidelines. Parents are to collect their child from the outside classroom door of their allocated classroom. Bubble allocations will not change once assigned to a bubble children will remain in that group until government guidance differs. Parents will be asked to queue along the 2 metre markers from the classroom doors and children will exit one at a time when their waiting parent has reached the front of the line. Parents are to exit the school grounds through the pedestrian gate located at the bottom of the playground.

Any communication with parents and carers will be held at a safe social distance outside, or by phone, so school can remain sealed off to all but essential staff and pupils.

Pupil Groupings

Government guidance acknowledges that unlike older children and adults, early years and primary age children cannot be expected to remain 2 metres apart from each other and staff. To reduce risk, classes will be split into smaller groups of no more than 15 children, separated from the rest of their year group, and taught by a teacher/TA who may not be their usual member of staff. The children will remain with these bubbles with the same consistent staff allocated until guidance differs. The children will be assigned into 'bubbles' on entrance to school on the first initial day. *The term 'bubble' refers to a designated fixed group of children and adults who do not mix outside their bubble.*

Classroom Organisation

Within Year 1, children will be organised into bubbles. Each bubble will be allocated their own teaching space this will either be in a Year 1 or Year 2 classroom. Children will be assigned their own table, which will be adequately distanced from others. Children will be provided with their own pack of necessary resources where applicable. There will be an adaptation to the curriculum and the use of continued provision areas will be minimised to avoid the sharing of resources.

Hygiene Protocols

On entrance to the learning environments, the use of hand sanitiser and handwashing by staff and children will be implemented as well as during regular intervals across the school day. We will also be promoting good respiratory hygiene adopting the catch it, bin it, kill it approach as recommended by Public Health England. Thorough cleaning routines will be in place during the day to ensure frequently touched surfaces such as door handles, handrails, table tops and resources are sanitised to minimise risk.

Break Times and Lunch Time Provision

Playtimes and lunchtimes will be staggered with different spaces on the playground allocated to each bubble to ensure different groupings remain separate. School Lunches will take the form of a picnic style lunch with a hot and sandwich option. Children will eat their lunch within their allocated classroom with a designated member of lunchtime staff, which will remain consistent.

Breakfast Club Provision

As you are aware since the closure of schools across the country, we at Oyster Park have remained open including during the Easter Holidays to provide childcare provision for children of key workers and those classed as vulnerable. Due to the limitations of space and social distancing restrictions our Breakfast Club provision will continue to remain solely for these groups. We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause.

The careful and phased re-opening of school will focus on supporting the children to learn, stay safe, and to enjoy being back with their friends and with school staff. We recognise that lockdown has caused the loss of routine, structure, friendship, freedom and elements of uncertainty. We therefore aim to support the mental health and well-being of our children through our personalised social skills curriculum.

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Once again, we would like to thank our parents and carers for their unwavering support during such uncertain times.

Keep Safe,

Yours sincerely,

J Chapman-Kemp

Mrs J Chapman-Kemp
Headteacher