

Dear Families,

We wanted to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support of the academy and the trust at the end of what has been another fantastic academic year. As the new Head of School, I want to wish all families a fun filled and well rested summer holiday together.

Key Updates

As you will be aware, from Monday 19th July many of the restrictions that have been in place throughout the pandemic will begin to be lifted. Schools have also been issued with new guidelines as part of the process.

From Monday, the school will no longer decide on the closure of class bubbles should there be a single positive case within a class. Any positive test will now be reported to NHS Test and Trace who will carry out contact tracing. From August 16th, positive contacts who are under 18 years old will no longer need to self-isolate.

We have updated our risk assessment to reflect the new guidelines. Wherever possible we are seeking to return to how our school day operated before the start of the pandemic but supported by some preventative control measures. In readiness for the start of the new year, I wanted to outline the key changes which will take effect from our return on **Monday September 6th**.

Timings of the school Day

We will no longer be operating a staggered school day. All children will need to line up on the playground at **8:50am**. Please ensure that your child is on time as we begin lessons as soon as we enter the building and any period of lateness will affect their learning.

The end of the school day will return to **3:15pm** for all pupils

Whilst the requirement to socially distance and wear face coverings will be lifted, we would ask that you remain sensitive to the fact that some adults may still wish to follow this practice.

Lunchtime

We will return to our normal lunchtime operations in September. This will include a full hot service and meal offer. Children will eat in the dining hall and lunchtimes will be a 1 hour break.

Outwood Grange Academies Trust is a company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales (No. 06995649)
Registered office: Potovens Lane, Outwood, Wakefield, West Yorkshire WF1 2PF

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This letter, including any attachments, is for the sole use of the intended recipient(s) and may contain privileged information.
Any unauthorised review, use, disclosure or distribution is prohibited.

If you are not the intended recipient, please contact the Outwood Grange Academies Trust and destroy all copies of the original letter.

Ventilation

Ventilation remains a key control measure. We will therefore balance the need to open classroom windows with the need to maintain a comfortable temperature. Children will not need to wear coats in classrooms but you may wish to dress them with additional layers e.g. vests should the weather become a little colder.

COVID-19 Cases

Please remember that your child should not attend school if they display the symptoms of Covid. You should arrange for them to have a PCR test and they should isolate until the result comes back. If your child's test returns a positive result this will be picked up by NHS Test and Trace who will work with the school to follow any government guidelines. If you do have a positive result, please let the academy know so that we can provide appropriate support including access to remote learning.

Home LFD testing kits are not promoted for primary aged children.

Personal Hygiene

We will continue to promote regular hand washing throughout the school day. Children will be expected to wash their hands regularly particularly before and after lunch and when they have been to the toilet.

We will also promote good respiratory hygiene by promoting the catch it; bin it; kill it message.

Features of the school day

Many features of our pre-pandemic school day will be reestablished from September. This will include school assemblies and whole school playtime. These are important socialisation opportunities that children have missed throughout the last two years.

Uniform

In readiness for the new academic year, we would like to remind you of our expectations for school uniform:

- Purple sweatshirt or cardigan (with school logo)
- White polo shirt or white school shirt
- Grey skirt or trousers
- Grey socks or tights
- Black shoes (plain)

Summer uniform (purple dress, white socks, black shoes) may be worn after the Easter holidays until the academy closes in July.

Children also require a PE kit consisting of:

- Purple t-shirt (with school logo)
- Black shorts

Jewellery

Could we also take this opportunity to remind families that it is the trust policy that jewellery should not be worn by children in the academy. This includes the wearing of earrings. If you are hoping to have your child's ears pierced then the summer holiday is a good time for this as it allows a long period of time for the healing to take place. If there are any medical reasons that you need to discuss, please do not hesitate to contact the academy.

We have made all of these plans for September in the context of the guidance available to schools at this point. We hope, like you, that the situation does not change over the summer break and that we can move towards a more familiar school day. If there are any changes made which affect how we will return to school in September then we will notify you by our text service with an attached letter. All updates are readily available on our school website too.

We are very much looking forward to September and wish you and your family an enjoyable Summer break.

Yours faithfully,



Mr T Bower

Head of School