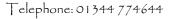


## Oaklands Infant School

Headteacher Mrs Hannah O'Neill BA QTS Butler Road, Crowthorne, Berkshire RG45 6QZ



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13 May 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

## Re: possible reopening of school for Reception and Year I on I June followed by Year 2 a month before the end of term

It has been announced in the news that schools may reopen on I June to Reception and Year I pupils **if** the government thinks it is safe to do so and year 2 later that month. The school will only open to the specific year groups provided the 5 key tests set by Government are met.

We are reading through guidance and clarification from the government right now, which will help us create an action plan should the phased reopening go ahead. We will share this with you as soon as possible so you know what reopening may look like in practice for Oaklands Infants. This will look different from the usual school day; for example, we are considering shortened days, staggered sessions and children supervised in small groups across different classrooms. For the remainder of this month, there will be no changes. Rest assured that we are going to be doing everything we can to make sure we are ready to receive these year groups if it is safe for Oaklands Infants to reopen in the coming weeks.

However, we are also not going to be pressuring anyone to send their children to school, since you know your children and personal situation best. We will keep you updated with all our preparations for making sure the school is as safe as possible, so you can make an informed decision.

In the meantime, the school is still open **only** for vulnerable pupils and the children of critical workers for childcare provision. We know some employers will be encouraging you to return to work, but we are not in a position right now to extend places to other children until we receive further government guidance. The Prime Minister spoke about childcare being an obvious barrier to some people being able to return to work and that employers should be understanding of this fact.

We would like to thank you for your continuous support in helping your child learn from home. We will need to keep going with this for a while yet, so please do continue to do what you can. We will be reviewing our home learning provision once we have more guidance from the government regarding re-opening as this will impact on resources available.

All decisions we make regarding our home learning provision are based around DfE guidance on remote education during coronavirus which was last updated on 5<sup>th</sup> May. This details that expectations about remote education practice will vary according to a school's context, circumstances and the existing technology and infrastructure. We are providing learning tasks for remote learners with consistency and links to online resources produced by the government, whilst still enabling the school to remain open for vulnerable and Key Worker children.

Our small school has a dedicated staff team which is one of our greatest strengths however there are personal circumstances of staff to consider which cannot be shared with parents but has impact on what we are able to provide. Please know that we are all doing the best we can for the children of Oaklands Infants with the resources we have available.





I will be in touch as soon as we have secure plans for the children of our school and our proposed provision on re-opening.

Yours sincerely

Harrah O'Neill

Hannah O'Neill Headteacher

For your information, please find some government information below:

## Latest guidance on coronavirus

You can find all the <u>latest information and guidance</u> on managing schools and supporting the young people in your care during the coronavirus pandemic on GOV.UK.

You can also find a <u>regularly updated Q&A</u> on GOV.UK which brings together key information and actions for schools.

## Phased wider opening of schools, colleges and nurseries – from 1st June

We have set out plans for schools, colleges and early years settings across England to potentially open from 1st June.

Four pieces of guidance have been published to support you to plan:

- Actions for education and childcare settings to prepare for wider opening
- Initial planning framework
- Implementing protective measures in education and childcare settings
- Guidance for parents and carers

More guidance will be published in coming days and weeks and existing guidance will be updated. All documents will be published <u>here</u>.

This item has just been updated from the last email you received as it was missing a link.