



14th May 2020

Dear Parents,

Potential return to school for Year 6 children on Monday 1st June 2020

Earlier this week, the government announced a provisional plan for schools to reopen for all Year 6 children at Oak Hill Academy as early as Monday 1st June. The decision to reopen schools will only be made by the government, once they deem it safe to do so. The government has stated that children are far less likely to become unwell if infected with Covid-19.

If the Monday 1st June reopening goes ahead, then we will welcome back children in Year 6 alongside the key worker and priority group children who have already been attending during this time.

Today, I have also sent you a parent survey so that you can let the school know of your intention to send your Year 6 child to school if it reopens. I would be grateful for as many responses as possible, as this will help me plan for a potential reopening and plan how many staff I will need to ask to come in to work each day.

I have been informed that the government announcement about schools reopening or not could come out as late as Friday 29th May. This will be at the end of the May half term and I will send an email and a text to all Year 6 parents to confirm either way as soon as I know. I will also outline what learning we propose to take place each day, in order to prepare your child/children for a smooth transition to secondary school in September 2020.

Health & Safety measures at Oak Hill in a potential reopening

All schools have been issued with detailed government Health and Safety guidance on any such reopening and I want to reassure all of our parents that we will carefully follow all advice in order to provide the safest possible environment for all our children and staff on their return to school.

I would like to reassure all parents that:

- Children will be taught in smaller groups of 9 pupils or less in each classroom.
- Children will be kept at a safe 2 metre distance apart in classrooms and inside spaces
- 2 metre marker barriers in place outside and inside the school to support social distancing
- There will be a staggered school start and a staggered end to each day – timings will follow once we know we will be reopening

- Children will stay in their groups of 9 for play time and lunchtime
- Break times and lunch times will also be staggered in the small groups to ensure social distancing can be maintained
- At lunchtime children will eat in socially distanced smaller groups in the dining hall and outside if the weather permits
- A one way walking system will be in operation inside the school and as little movement as possible taking place around the academy across the day
- There will not be any gatherings of more than 9 people (so no assemblies etc.)
- Enhanced hygiene protocols will be adopted, including washing hands and the availability of using hand sanitizer regularly, which will be provided for all children
- Parents will not be allowed to come in to the school or the playground and there will be no access between Feltham Hill Infant school or Oak Hill in order to provide children and staff with a safer working environment and to eliminate risks of infection
- Face coverings: The government advice states that face coverings/ masks and gloves are not deemed to be essential items to protect against the virus. However, if parents wish their children to wear them, our staff would ensure they are used effectively across the day
- We are encouraging all parents and children to wear face coverings and gloves if you use public transport on the way to school

The government have also announced a further ambition to bring all primary school year groups back to school at some point before the school holidays. Again, I will keep you fully informed of any further details or decisions as they emerge.

Advice and guidance that the government has prepared for parents/carers can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers>

I will write to you again with further details once I know that this opening will definitely be going ahead. My thanks for your continued engagement.

In the meantime, if you have any questions or queries, please email the school office at: office@oakhill-aspirations.org

My best wishes to you all.

Yours faithfully

Mrs R Saim
Principal

Principal: Mrs R Saim MA, BEd (Hons), NPQH
Vice Principal: Miss L Taylor BSc (Hons), PGCE

