



**Guided by Jesus in all that we do. Together, we are one school, one community, one world.**

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Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2021

Dear Parents,

As we approach the end of another academic year I am writing to thank you all for your support with our procedures and also to update you with our plans for September now that we have moved into step 4 of the government roadmap. We appreciate that you may feel a sense of uncertainty about what case numbers will be like when we return but want to reassure you that the safety of your children, families and our staff remains a priority as we move forward together.

We will no longer have staggered drop off and pick up times. Children in Key Stage 1 and 2 can be dropped off between 8:45 and 8:55am at the main gate. The children will walk into school by themselves through the front door and to class. Either myself or Miss Greenwood will be at the gate when it opens in case you need to pass any messages on.

At the end of day class teachers will bring the children out on to the field and dismiss. Children in year 1 and 2 need to be collected at 3:10pm and children in Key Stage 2 need to be collected at 3:15pm. If you have children in both key stages, you must arrive at the earlier time and wait until Key Stage 2 come out. This will ensure your child receives the correct amount of teaching time throughout the day.

We understand that it becomes very busy around the school gate at the beginning and end of the school day so we ask only one parent drops off each day. It is parental choice whether you wear a face covering.

Children in EYFS will be dropped off at their entrance at the side of church. Members of the team will greet your child and take them into the cloakroom where they will be supported to find their peg, hang up their coat and bag and go into their classroom. Times are as follows

- **Nursery AM – 8:45am**
- **Nursery 30 hours – 8:45am**
- **Reception – 8:55am**
- **Nursery PM – 12:30pm**

Children will be collected from the same entrance at the end of the session / day. Timings are as follows:

- **Nursery AM – 11:45am**
- **Nursery 30 Hours – 3:00pm**
- **Reception – 3:05pm**
- **Nursery PM – 3:30pm**

Children will continue to wear their PE kit on the days they have PE. All children must wear the correct school PE kit red t-shirt and black shorts, if the weather is cold they can wear plain black joggers and a plain black hoodie. Branded clothing / logos are not allowed, DARE t-shirts are also not PE kit and children are not allowed to wear them to school. PE Days are listed below

- **Nursery: Monday morning, Thursday afternoon**
- **Reception: Thursday and Friday**
- **Year One: Tuesday**
- **Year Two: Tuesday**
- **Year Three: Tuesday and Wednesday**
- **Year Four: Tuesday and Friday**
- **Year Five: Monday and Tuesday**
- **Year Six: Tuesday.**

Year 1 and 2 children will have Forest School sessions with Mrs Harrison and Mrs Nicholson each Monday so will need to come dressed appropriately. Further information will follow in September.

Year 6 will be going swimming on a Wednesday. Further information will follow in September.

On other days, your child is expected to wear their uniform including black school shoes. Our uniform policy ensures children feel included, equal and proud to belong to our school community.

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Please ensure your child has a coat each day as we will take the children outside if it is raining. Children with long hair must have it tied back in a bobble and those with pierced earrings must wear studs which need to be removed before PE sessions. Staff are not allowed to remove earrings so if children cannot take them out themselves they must be removed before coming to school.

Children do not need to bring a huge bag to school, their book bag is sufficient to carry their reading book and organiser as they are not required to bring anything else to school. It is important your child brings a named water bottle each day. Fruit is provided daily to children in EYFS and Key Stage 1. Children in Key Stage 2 can bring a piece of fresh fruit to eat at playtime.

We hope that as we settle into the new year we will be able to invite parents into school again to celebrate achievement and will update you in the new academic year

We must remember that although we have moved in to step 4, Covid is still with us. It is important that if anyone in your household has any of the following symptoms you must isolate as a household and contact school. These are

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, they must not come to school and should remain at home for at least 10 days from the date when their symptoms appeared. Anyone with symptoms will be eligible for a PCR test (the normally available test type) and this can be arranged via <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test> or by calling 119. It is advised that lateral flow tests are not suitable for children in primary schools. Once you receive PCR results these must be emailed to school whether they are positive or negative. All other household members who remain well, must stay at home and not leave the house for 10 days. This includes anyone in your 'Support Bubble'.

Further information is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

The household isolation period includes the day the first person in your household's symptoms started (or the day their test was taken if they did not have symptoms) and the next 10 full days. This means that if, for example, your 10 day isolation period starts on the 15th of the month, your isolation period ends at 23:59 hrs on the 25th and you can return to your normal routine. Household members should not go to work, school or public areas and exercise should be taken within the home/ garden. Household members staying at home for 10 days will greatly reduce the overall amount of infection the household could pass on to others in the community

**Since Monday 19<sup>th</sup> July NHS Test and Trace have assumed contact tracing duties. Individual positive cases and / or their parents will be contacted and their close contacts would be traced and asked to follow relevant public health advice eg isolate at home for 10 days. It is vital we work together to ensure we are honest with Test and Trace regarding dates and symptoms so any close contacts can be notified and isolate where necessary to prevent further infection.**

How to stop COVID-19 spreading

There are things we will continue to do in school to help reduce the risk of children, staff and families getting ill with COVID-19. These are:

- wash your hands with soap and water often – do this for at least 20 seconds
- use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- wash your hands as soon as you get home
- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
- put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me on 9155800 or [admin@olseacademy.org.uk](mailto:admin@olseacademy.org.uk)

Kind regards,

*Rachel Byrne*

Head Teacher

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