



Oakhurst Community First & Nursery
School
*'From Little Acorns Mighty Oaks
Grow'*

12th May, 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

As our ParentMail sent earlier today explained how we are beginning to plan and undertake risk assessments, in order to prepare for the reopening of our school from 1st June as announced by the Government. The detailed guidance is available here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/reopening-schools-and-other-educational-settings-from-1-june>

We understand that this may be a worry for you as we move from staying in the safety of our own home to the new normal. We are currently getting ready to ensure we can do this safely. However, our school will be operating in a different way from the one we most recently remember. Social distancing will be a challenge on site so our school office will remain closed to the public and visitors. Communication will continue via email as the quickest form of contact.

Only children and staff will be on site, so we will meet our children at the school gates. There will be a phased entry to school each day, meaning that some children may start from 8.20am, but will finish earlier, at 2.20pm. Other children can then enter safely in 10-minute intervals and leave in the same way. The two-metre distancing must be in place while you drop off or pick up at the school gate. It is vitally important that parents stick to the allotted time slots in order to avoid any gathering outside the school gates.

We will provide more specific details as we refine our plans. However, I can provide an update on some hygiene practices. Our cleaners have been on site daily despite our school being closed to most pupils, and deep cleaning has taken place throughout the school. We have good supplies of anti-bacterial spray, hand soap, hand gel and some PPE for any close intimate care or first aid. We will supply individual packs of equipment in a folder for each child, so no pencils and glue sticks will be shared. Each child will have their own pencils, coloured pencils, glue stick in their own folder.

We have been taking the temperature of all children as they come on site during the skeleton childcare provision. This will continue as we move towards a fuller opening.

Shaftesbury Road
West Moors
Dorset
BH22 0DY

01202 871577
office@oakhurstfirst.com
www.oakhurstfirst.com



The Heath Academy Trust
St James CE First School
Park Lane
ALDERHOLT SP6 3AJ
Company Registration
Number 098098095

We will be operating a cold lunch option only and intend to make the most of the outdoors during this summer term. A staggered picnic lunch will be planned for each group of children. We will provide a cold lunch option for all children who qualify for a free school meal, including all infant age children.

If we are able to operate safely for the youngest children, we will extend the provision for other year groups in a steady manner, so hopefully, all children will have some time in school during this academic year. We will keep you informed about specific dates when we are assured we can keep everyone safe. It is our intention to have all school age children having some on site learning during June or July.

However, the site access will be extremely limited. All events are cancelled. Unfortunately, there will be no sports day for parents or a summer fayre this year. Whole school assemblies will not happen and there will be no school visits. Online learning will continue for children in year groups who are not attending, but this will be reduced as children are able to return.

We will provide more detailed information later this week, along with proposed timings for the week beginning 1st June. We understand the worries about the return to school based learning. The safety of the people in our school community is paramount. We are working hard to get it right so please bear with us as we plan to succeed at this most crucial stage.

Wishing you all the best as we move towards the new 'normal'.

Ann Clark

Headteacher

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Dorset
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