

Ms. S. Talib. Principal.
BA (Hons) QTS Med NPQH

19th May 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Plans for the safe re-opening of Oasis Academy Temple

Further to our message to you last week, we are writing to you today as a parent or carer with a child in Reception, Year 1 or Year 6 with information about the preparations we are making for the gradual return of pupils to the Academy next month.

The Government would like children of your child's age group to begin to return to school from 1st June, after the half-term holiday. This is in addition to the children who are able to attend now (children of key workers and other eligible children).

We plan to phase our opening starting on Monday 1st June. The re-opening will only happen if the Government and the medical experts say that it is safe to do so, and once we have made all the necessary arrangements to keep your child and our staff safe.

Our number one priority is the safety of your child, your family and of our staff. Since the lock down began, we have remained open at Oasis Academy Temple to provide childcare for the children of key workers and other eligible children if/when needed.

The details below set out when we would like your child to attend the Academy together with the detailed arrangements we have put in place to ensure as high a degree of safety as possible.

We realise that you are probably very anxious about what is being proposed by the government, so we will try to make this as straight-forward as we can and be as honest as we can possibly be with you at this point. School will support any decision you make, whether to send your children in or keep them at home.

Keyworker Group

- These children that were on the original list can continue to come in to school regardless of the phased returns for the other year groups but we must know if you intend to access this provision the week before as it has staffing implications.

Nursery

- We will not be opening for Nursery children initially and we revisit this when we believe it is the right time to do so.

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Reception

- Reception will be divided into small groups depending on confirmed numbers and come to school on a rota. This will be sent to you once we have the numbers for June 1st.

Year 1

- Year 1 will be divided into small groups depending on confirmed numbers and come to school on a rota. This will be sent to you once we have the numbers for June 1st.

Year 6

- Year 6 will be divided into groups of 15 and will be placed in the 3 school halls again as we have 90 Year 6 they will be on a rota. This will be sent to you once we have the numbers for June 1st.

Teachers will have all day Friday to prepare and respond to online learning for those pupils who are learning at home.

- Nursery will be re-introduced once we have safely re-introduced Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 back in to school
- All other year groups (Y2, Y3, Y4 and Y5) will continue with their online learning.

If any parent of a Reception, Year 1 or Year 6 child does not take a place from 1st June but then changes their mind in the coming week's they must apply for a place giving us a week's notice - applications have to be made via the school office.

The following points apply to all children whose parents would like them to come into school from 1st June:

- No suspected sick child will be admitted to school. If staff suspect a child may have symptoms then the child will be isolated and sent home immediately.
- You must realise that your child may not be with their teachers or their friends...we will try, but we must put safety first and some children may be taught by teaching assistants directed by teachers.
- Fresh clean clothes every day may reduce the risk of passing on the Virus so although we would prefer uniform as it is easily washed and dried we will be flexible on this.
- No lunch boxes/food/water bottles/pencil cases may be brought from home - all children will have a school packed lunch provided.

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- There will be staggered drop off/pick up times across the school starting from 8.30am (details to follow). These staggered times will also apply to break times and lunch times. Parents will be asked not to enter the school grounds and to respect Social Distancing (SD) at all times during drop off and pick up. Only one parent should drop off or pick up, if at all possible, to reduce the volume of people moving around - it is envisaged that the site will be clear of all pupils and parents by 3.30pm.
- On arrival all pupils will wash their hands and be placed in a 'Learning Bubble' (LB) of no more than 8 pupils for R and Y1 and 15 for Y6 for the entire day - they will have a teacher or teaching assistant to direct their learning. They will not be able to mix with any other child from outside of that LB the entire time that they are in school. Packed lunches will be delivered to their classroom so they eat separately and they will go to a specific area in the playground to play as a group, not mixing with any other pupils from other LBs. There will be frequent 'washing breaks' to clean hands and frequent reminders about how to Socially Distance, wash hands and keep themselves safe.

At present, there will be no Breakfast club or any after school clubs so parents and carers will have to make their own arrangements for these times.

There is a lot of information here, but we wanted you to have the full detail of what we are planning to do to make the Academy safe for our pupils and staff. However while we want to provide you with as much clarity as possible about the reopening plans, of course, as things stand, we still do not know whether the Government will confirm its recommendation that schools should reopen from 1st June. This has always been dependent on the R factor but we have now been advised that this decision will be made next Thursday, 28th May. If you don't hear from me, please assume that these arrangements stand. If however things change we will be in touch with you on Friday, 29th May.

Thank you as ever for your patience and understanding during this time, and the support you are showing the team who are working exceptionally hard to do all they can for the pupils.

If you have further questions or concerns you would like addressed, please contact us at admin@oasistemple.org.

Yours sincerely,

Oasis Academy Temple Leadership