



# The Orchard Primary School

*Nurture Learn Grow*

## The Orchard Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs Christine Haslam

Dear Parents

I wrote to you last week with information about our plans for re-opening to Year 6, Year 1 and Reception and had planned for Year 6 and Year 1 to return next week. We are unfortunately now unable to open to those year groups next week because there is still work to be completed to ensure our site is ready as we would like it to be. There is still some work taking place in the school and we cannot guarantee that this will be completed by Friday this week. We are committed to doing our utmost to ensure the safety of everyone and have made this important decision with that in mind.

Your child will now return to school at these times:

<b>Year 6</b>	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> June
<b>Year 1</b>	Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> June
<b>Reception</b>	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> June

The staggered start previously shared will still be in place:

<b>Year 6</b>	Start – 9.00am	End – 3.30pm (1.30pm on a Friday)
<b>Year 1</b>	Start – 9.15am	End - 3.10pm (1.15pm on a Friday)
<b>Reception</b>	Start – 9.40am	End - 2.45pm (1pm on a Friday)

The school will be closing early on a Friday to enable a more thorough clean of the building to be carried out for the following week.

## Reminders

- The returning children will be placed in a 'pod' of no more than 15 children with a teacher. Each pod will not be permitted to interact with other pods. Each pod will have its own designated classroom and outdoor space.
- Year 6 children should either be accompanied to the gate by their parent or should walk to school on their own. Children in Year 1 and Reception should be accompanied by 1 parent without other family members.
- A one way system will be in operation for movement around the site to prevent contact between groups and to help children and parents enter and leave the site safely.
- We will ask all parents to observe social distancing expectations in Orchard Road and Cromwell Road as they bring their children to school and not gather or wait at the school gates.

- Should any member of a pod exhibit any sign of infection, the school must be notified immediately and the individual child or member of staff must not come to school. If this happens during school time, the school will contact parents of other children in this group. If a child or staff member for a pod tests positive for the infection the rest of that group will be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 14 days. No child will be permitted back in school until they have completed the required time period for isolation. (7 days if you have a positive test.)
- Mixing between groups will be reduced through staggered drop off and collection times as well as staggered breaks and lunchtimes.
- We will promote regular hand washing for at least 20 seconds with running water and soap
- We will promote the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach with everyone
- We will be cleaning surfaces, such as door handles, table tops, play equipment and taps more frequently.
- The children do not need to bring anything to school unless they have a packed lunch and this should be in a bag which can be hung on the back of their chair.
- The children are expected to wear school uniform or their own sensible clothes but on days when they have PE they should wear their PE kit to school so they do not have to change during the school day.
- We are proud of our children and their behaviour at school. They have very clear expectations to follow and this will not change at this time. There will be some additional expectations in relation to distancing and hygiene and we ask for parents continued cooperation with this. If we find that a child is not able to follow these expectations we will be contacting parents to collect their child and will have to discuss whether it is appropriate and safe for that child to continue to attend at this time.

We will contact you prior to the school opening with more guidance about your child's return and we look forward to seeing your child on the dates given.

Thank you again for your continued support and I hope you and your families continue to be well.

Yours sincerely

Christine Haslam  
Headteacher