

Dear Parents/Carers

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As you will know from the statements from Public Health that are reported in the media, the infection rate continues to rise in the city and this is continuing to impact on school staffing levels. I am in regular communication with the Local Authority, Public Health and other School Leaders as to how this can be managed in order to ensure all children have access to school whilst maintaining health and safety.

I believe it is very important that we put structure and consistency in place during this very unpredictable and anxious time.

Staffing levels are still very low. All absences are Covid- related. Staff are sick, recovering from sickness, self-isolating from 'track and trace' or working from home due to Covid – related circumstances. Therefore I am unable to safely open the school for all students.

From next week, Monday 16th November 2020, the school will be partially open. You will have all received a telephone call to explain the situation and how it will affect your child. If you have not been available, be assured, staff will make every effort to speak to you as soon as you can. I want you to have the opportunity to ask any questions and for us to be able to support you

Students can assess work via the platform Teams. A step by step guide is on the website.

All students will receive planned lessons via the class teachers using the platform Microsoft Teams- a help sheet on how to access/use Teams can be found on the schools website. The web link is <http://www.oakfieldhull.co.uk/index.php/curriculum/platform-learning/>

Staff continue to deliver laptops to families as quickly as is possible to ensure that all students have access to this learning platform. There are staff available to help you understand how to access the system and guide you through any difficulties you may have. Staff will also be available to help your child with any of the work that is set.

Can I remind you that if anyone in your family develops symptoms or tests positive for coronavirus can you please let us know? Jo, Jayne and Leanne are available on their work phones and they will be able to quickly get a message to me.

Transport will be arranged for the children who are attending

Those students who are entitled to FSM will be provided with vouchers for the days the students are unable to attend the school site.

You will receive welfare calls each week to keep you updated and to answer any questions and /or address any issues you may have.

A Face covering must be worn by all staff and all students in public areas when in school.

I am monitoring the situation each day and I want you to know that as soon as the staffing levels are stable enough, we will be expecting the school to work towards full re-opening as quickly as possible.

Oakfield has always enjoyed whole school activities in our final week before the Christmas break. I am hoping, and we are planning, to be able to do some of our traditional Christmas activities with all staff and all students at the end of the term.

I want, again, to reassure you that Public Health are confident that the school is doing all it can to minimise the risk of infection of staff and students. However, we continue to monitor all our current procedures to ensure we are further minimising the likelihood of infection

Again, I want to thank you all for your support during this challenging time. Please keep safe.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rachel M Davies". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'R'.

Rachel Davies

Head Teacher

Additional information

What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID 19

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 testing and this can be arranged via <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test> or by calling 119.

All other household members who remain well must stay at home and not leave the house for 14 days. This includes anyone in your 'Support Bubble'. Further guidance 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 14-day period starts from the day when the first person in the house became ill.

Household members should not go to work, school or public areas and exercise should be taken within the home. If you require help with buying groceries, other shopping or picking up medication, or walking a dog, you should ask friends or family. Alternatively, you can order your shopping online and medication by phone or online.

Household members staying at home for 14 days will greatly reduce the overall amount of infection the household could pass on to others in the community

If you are able can, move any vulnerable individuals (such as the elderly and those with underlying health conditions) out of your home, to stay with friends or family for the duration of the home isolation period

Symptoms of COVID 19

The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of:

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

For most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

If your child does develop symptoms, you can seek advice from NHS 111 at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/> or by phoning 111

How to stop COVID-19 spreading

There are things you can do to help reduce the risk of you and anyone you live with getting ill with COVID-19

Do

- 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

Further Information

Further information is available at

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>