

11th May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers of all Oak Trees Multi Academy Trust schools,

As you will have heard from the speech by the Prime Minister Boris Johnson last night, school children are to begin a phased return back to school from June 1st, starting with Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 pupils. This announcement is currently quite vague and it is not yet clear how this will happen, but as a MAT we have been planning for the eventual return to school for a number of weeks, and we will continue to do so until June 1st.

I understand that all parents, myself included, are concerned as to whether it is safe for their child to come back to school and are also concerned as to what measures our schools have put in place to ensure the continued safeguarding of their children and our staff.

Please can I reassure all parents that all Oak Trees MAT schools are doing everything possible to make our schools safe for the children's return. Our main priorities are:

- 1. Ensure that all children and staff are safe and support their mental health.
- 2. Keep listening and communicating well in order to deal with and alleviate any concerns.
- 3. Continue to support the children of key workers, vulnerable children and those with an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP).
- 4. Work with other local schools, Public Health, Health and Safety, the LA and Union leaders to ensure that we do everything possible to protect the health and safety of pupils and staff.
- 5. Ensure that we are rigorous and quick in our response to any suspected cases and follow Public Health guidance at all times in order to protect children and staff.
- 6. Maintain social distancing to protect everyone.

Whilst we do understand that last night's announcement will mean parents having a lot of questions, we are waiting to receive more information from government about what this means for each school, and until we do I would ask that parents wait until we have more information from the school.

I will write to you again before the pupils return with an update on some of the actions taken in our schools, and your Headteacher will also write to you in the coming days with an update on some of their plans and actions. As stated previously, all staff have been fantastic in their commitment to the schools and the children, and this will continue in the coming weeks and months. We do understand your worries and concerns as to pupils returning to schools, but please rest assured that we will work together as a MAT in the coming weeks to do absolutely everything we can to ensure the safe return of pupils and staff; our number one priority in these difficult times.

Yours sincerely,

Tony Lacey,

Chief Executive Officer

Oak Trees Multi Academy Trust