

Dear Parents/Carers,

Following on from last week's announcement by the Government and after the publication of further guidance, I am now writing to update you on our plans for the reopening of school on the 1st June and the 8th June 2020 after our two-week half term holiday.

Before I set out these arrangements, I would like to take this opportunity to thank parents and carers for their understanding and cooperation since we had to close as a school and reopen as the OLI Hub. I know that this period has been challenging for many families, in particular when you have had to juggle work commitments with managing childcare, if you have children with special educational needs or disability, or if you are a single parent.

Our school will be following the Liverpool reopening plan, which is a gradual phased approach. It is important however to note that we are reopening the school and not the childcare hub and as such there is now different guidance to follow which has been set out by the Government. It goes without saying that the safety of your child and of our staff is our top priority. We are working hard, following the latest government guidance, to develop and implement a number of new ways of operating. This will allow us to open as safely as possible, focusing on measures that will help limit the risk of coronavirus transmitting within our setting. Our governors have approved all of our risk assessments and arrangements for reopening.

Week beginning 1st June – KEY WORKER FAMILIES ONLY

We are currently on our 2-week half term holiday however staff from school have kindly volunteered their time so that we can continue to support our key worker families.

I have been in touch with key worker families who accessed the OLI Hub to plan for their childcare needs however if you think that your child comes under the key worker category and you require childcare for the week beginning 1st June please email m.chute@oliprimaryschool.co.uk. You will need to provide details of your employment and shift patterns so that we can ensure that we don't exceed staff- pupil ratios. The full list of key workers according to the Government can be found at this link

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

Week beginning 8th June 2020 –KEY WORKER AND VULNERABLE FAMILIES ONLY

if your child falls into the vulnerable category set out by government they will be able to attend school from the 8th June. If your child has already attended a childcare hub we have planned for these children however if you have not attended a childcare hub and you feel that your child comes under either category please email m.chute@oliprimaryschool.co.uk outlining your childcare needs. A member of staff will be in touch.

Here is some detail that I hope will be helpful to you regarding the reopening:

- Children will be taught in “key stage bubbles” based around their age of no more than 15 in a group. This may mean that different teachers will be teaching children during the week but those teachers/ support staff are working with the same group of children. Senior leaders will allocate children to their key stage bubble and where possible they will be with the children’s usual class teacher.
 - Children will continue to clean their hands more often than usual. We have developed routines to ensure children understand when and how to wash their hands, making sure they wash them thoroughly for at least 20 seconds
 - We have implemented an enhanced cleaning schedule, ensuring surfaces touched by children and staff are cleaned regularly and throughout the day, including table tops, door handles and play equipment.
 - Children, who have been invited to return to school will have their own desk, chair, key resources in a work pack e.g. pencil, ruler etc., in their allocated classroom.
 - Our timetable will be structured – the mornings will be similar to what children are used to in Year 1 to Year 6. Maths and English will be taught in the morning including prayer/ reflection and an outside break (children will be allocated specific playgrounds so that they can play with others within their key stage bubble without coming into contact with another key stage bubble.
 - In the afternoon children will be taught other subjects and where possible outside.
 - Children will be wearing their uniform and will need a PE kit and sun hat/ cap. If there is an issue regarding uniform or PE kit then we will be more relaxed about this during Summer 2 term.
 - Children must have a school lunch. Packed lunches will not be allowed into the building. Lunchtimes will be staggered and children will sit 2 metres apart from each other. Children will also be provided with mid morning fruit or snack.
 - Personal possessions such as bags, toys, water bottles, reading folders etc. will not be allowed in school. We will have access to water throughout the day. We will continue to support children with medical issues or our 2 year olds who require personal items for hygiene reasons or to support a change of clothing etc.
 - As it stands, we will not be taking children offsite to church, swimming or on any day visits.
 - School will open officially at the usual time of 8:50am. The plan is that children will be able to arrive between 8:00am – 9:15am and will say goodbye to their parent at the school gate. A member of staff will be available to bring them in to school. We are offering a staggered approach so that parents/ carers can socially distance as they drop off their child.
 - School will officially finish at 3:20pm but again will be offering a staggered collection so parents can collect from 3pm up to 4pm.
- As more year groups begin to access the school site from 15th June we will review these arrangements to support social distancing principles

I cannot promise to you that we will keep your child socially distanced (2 metres away) from other children and staff at all times. Despite the measures we can put in place and instructions from staff, children will forget, children will want to play with others and staff will want to comfort someone who is upset if they fall over in the playground. My personal opinion is that if you are uncomfortable with this and want to keep your children socially distanced then do not send your child into school at this time. Please remember this is voluntary, we will continue to provide learning opportunities on the school website and online platforms for any child who is still accessing at home learning.

Reception, Year 1 and Year 6

We will then plan to open for the above children (as instructed by the Government/ Liverpool City Council) I will inform you of these reopening dates as soon as I can. The Liverpool City Council model goes with Year 6 first and we have plans well in place for this. The provisional date for school reopening to our Year 6 class is 15th June 2020.

Nursery

Nursery will remain at home until it is safe to reintroduce large numbers of children into school – this could be September or when space comes available in the EYFS unit.

Online learning

On return to school we will be reviewing our online learning especially with our SEND children in mind. There are still lots of resources available to our families on the school website however staff will restart online learning tasks on 8th June 2020.

How parents can support

- If your child or someone in your household has coronavirus symptoms then they should not come to school and you should follow government advice regarding self-isolation.
- If your child displays symptoms of coronavirus whilst in school they will be isolated from their bubble and you will need to collect them immediately and then follow government self isolation guidelines.
- Parents and carers should physically distance from each other and from staff when dropping off and collecting their children and to limit drop off and collection to one parent or carer per household.
- Please do not allow your child to bring toys or other items from home to the school, outside of those items I have previously outlined above.
- Talk to your child and reassure them as they face changing routines and groupings.

I appreciate that there is a lot of publicity and focus on the news and on social media. I have attached a summary for parents/ carers and children that we have made that hopefully will summarise our proposals (as each school will have their own individual plans) and you may want to share this with all children who will be returning after half term.

Thank you for your continued support.

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Yours sincerely,
Mrs C Sergeant
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