

Thursday 16th July 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope you and your families are well and continuing to look after each other as we continue into the summer holidays in these unprecedented times.

As you are aware, at Old Bank Academy, our approach to re-opening has followed the following core principles:

- 1. The obligation to ensure the safety of children, parents and staff;**
- 2. A commitment to the welfare and wellbeing of children and staff;**
- 3. Approaching the planning task to reopen in a calm, caring and consultative manner; and**
- 4. Making measured and reasonable decisions on the basis of the evidence we have and within the unique contexts we face in our academies.**

As you will have seen on the news and in government briefings there is an expectation that **all children will return to schools in September to start the 2020/21 academic year**. It is really important that children return to full time education and we are excited to have the children back in school. However, due to COVID19 DFE guidelines the return to school for all children, both at Old Bank, locally and nationally, will look very different.

Please read this letter carefully as the information below will give you guidance as to how the return to Old Bank will be managed, following government guidelines in September.

Attendance

All children are expected to return to school full time in September. If your child is absent for any reason, you should contact the school office to inform us of their absence. If you or another child in your household develops COVID19 symptoms you should contact school immediately and follow government guidelines in terms of isolation and testing.

Uniform

Children should return to school wearing full school uniform and bring their PE kit with them in a bag. Children will be expected to bring to school their school book bag (provided by school), water bottle (provided in school) and school planner (given out in school during the first week) each day.

Behaviour

Behaviour expectations will continue to be high as we want all of our children to learn at Old Bank in a safe, engaging environment. We will continue to follow our behaviour non- negotiables and children will **be expected to follow COVID19 restrictions/measures** put into place in school. Parents will be contacted immediately if COVID19 measurements are not followed to ensure both children and staff safety.

Entrances & Exits – routes in and out of school

Ash & Beech Class

Start of school: 8.40am

- **Enter via usual pathway from Taylor Hall Lane entrance**- sanitise hands as you enter site and proceed to child's classroom door. Parents should line up using the safe distancing lines outside each classroom (just like at the Supermarket). **Exit via one-way system- car park gates.**

End of school- 3.05pm- collect from classroom door using same entrance and exit.

Impact Education Multi Academy Trust

First Floor Unit 12

Longbow Close

Pennine Business Park,

Bradley

Huddersfield, HD2 1GQ

Tel: 01484 799321 | Email: admin@i-mat.org.uk | www.i-mat.org.uk

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Cherry & Holly Class

Start of school: 8.50am

- **Enter via usual pathway from Taylor Hall Lane entrance**- sanitise hands as you enter site and proceed to child's classroom door. Parents should line up using the safe distancing lines outside each classroom (just like at the Supermarket). **Exit via one-way system- car park gates.**

End of school: 3.15pm collect from classroom door using same entrance and exit.

Oak & Maple Class

Start of school: 8.50am

-**Enter via the car park gates** - sanitise hands as you enter site and proceed to child's classroom door. Parents should line up using the safe distancing lines outside each classroom (just like at the Supermarket). **Exit via one-way system- car park gates.**

End of school: 3.15pm collect from classroom door using same entrance and exit.

NOTE: There will be a strict NO SOCIAL GATHERING rule for parents when dropping off and collecting children at school. This is to reduce large gatherings as per DFE guidelines.

STAFF MEMBERS WILL BE OUTSIDE TO ENSURE CHILDREN ARE DROPPED OFF SAFELY AND GUIDELINES ARE FOLLOWED. A 'DROP & GO' PROCEDURE MUST BE FOLLOWED AT ALL TIMES.

Public Transport:

A reminder to those parents that may use Public Transport that you have a responsibility now to wear a face mask on your journey to and from school.

Breakfast Club:

Our school breakfast club will open from 7th September but will run initially **for current KEY WORKER children only- children who have been a part of the key worker bubble during COVID19 closures and have already been contacted.** This will ensure that we can provide a safe breakfast club for small, key worker numbers with the plan to open breakfast club to more children after October half term. There will be no charge for breakfast club at Old Bank Academy.

School Dinners:

Kirklees Council are providing hot dinners to children in schools from September. Lunches will be eaten in class bubbles and children will continue to get a choice of menu each day- **from September children will choose their school dinner on the previous day.** Children who prefer to bring a packed lunch can do so and lunch boxes will be wiped down in school before sending home each day.

School dinner payments will continue via Parent Pay- Kirklees have informed us that there will be an increase of 5p – school dinners will now be charged at £2.30.

Universal Free School Meals will continue for children in Reception – Year 2 and Free School Meals for children who qualify in years 3-6.

Children with **food allergies/intolerances** need to bring a packed lunch to school in the first instance until Kirklees Catering can carry out a risk assessment with parents.

Milk- school milk from September will be available for Under5's free of charge.

Swimming:

Due to COVID19 restrictions, swimming for KS2 children is cancelled until further notice.

Parent Meetings/Queries:

Due to DFE guidelines parents will not be allowed inside the school building and a strict 'drop and go' policy will be in place in order to follow COVID19 guidelines.

This means that any parents wanting a meeting with the Headteacher, SENCO, Pastoral support or school office will need to **contact the school via telephone or via the support email.**

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We will NOT be allowing parents inside the school building until further restrictions are lifted. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact us via the above measures, where we will be more than happy to help & answer any queries you may have.

Please continue to check the school website for further information before re-opening in September.

Welcome Back:

Most importantly we are looking forward to welcoming the children back to Old Bank Academy in September. The office staff have been busy processing new uniform, the site team have been busy making the school look fresh & inviting and the teachers have been busy planning exciting lessons for when the children return! We can't wait to see you all! You will be able to find me each day on the school gate come rain or shine & I look forward to seeing you all again.

In the meantime, please contact the school office if you have any queries Tel: 01924495790 or email support@oldbankschool.co.uk

Thank you for your continued support and take care of each other.

Kind Regards
Mrs J Wood
Headteacher

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