



Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Dear parents and carers,

For many of you, the decision to send your child back to school when we re-open (likely to be 1<sup>st</sup> June but we will confirm when the Government tell us) is very difficult. This is completely understandable. Many of us are in two minds as we are concerned about the education our children are missing and also worried about the mental well-being of the children as they miss their social groups.

I am not a doctor or a scientist and therefore I can only tell you that with input from my valued colleagues, I have created what I believe to be a comprehensive risk assessment. We have worked hard to put in place procedures that we hope will protect your children from risk as much as possible. There is no guarantee with this and I cannot promise you that your child will always remain 2m or more from another child as we know children will naturally gravitate towards one another. What I can tell you is that I will do my utmost to protect all the children, staff and parents in the Red Oaks community. This was written based on advice from the Government but as we are no longer a maintained school, this does not get sent to the Local Authority. The risk assessment has been approved by Governors and The Park Academies Trust. It is up to you, as parents and carers, to decide what is best for your child/children.

As you will know, we can currently only accept children in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 as well as children in years 2/3/4/5 who have key worker parents. If you have two key worker parents or are a single parent who is also a key worker, you will need to complete and return the attached form to indicate that you would like your child to attend school. We are in regular contact with parents of children who have an EHCP or who may be vulnerable as these children are also entitled to attend school.

The Government have indicated that parents who do not wish for their child to return to school (in years N, R, 1 and 6) will not be penalised for keeping their child at home.

### **Other key information**

-We will not be providing a breakfast club or after school club for the foreseeable future

-We will not be using the 'Kiss and Drop' service in the car park until further notice

-Where class sizes are reduced, we cannot guarantee that your child will be in the same class as all of their friends but will do our best to ensure there are some friends. We will unfortunately not be able to make swaps without very good reason



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-Temperatures of staff and children will be taken as they enter school. If temperature is 37.8 degrees or higher, the person will be sent home. We are only able to take temperatures on a voluntary basis, we cannot record or hold any of the data and if anyone refuses, that is their choice and they cannot be compelled, nor can there be any action as a result of that refusal. To opt out, please go to Parent Pay. If you do not opt out, we will assume consent.

-We may not be able to cover classes if a member of staff is off sick as we do not want staff or children mixing with different groups. That class group may therefore need to be closed temporarily. The children would be unable to join another group for the same reasons.

-We cannot guarantee that siblings will be on the same staggered start/finish times although there will not be a huge time difference

-There is a chance that your child's teacher may not be teaching them on return to school as we have had to utilise all staff to create smaller classes.

-If your child has 1:1 support, they may not have their regular adult if, for health reasons, they have been unable to return to work.

-Parents meetings will need to be by telephone only to minimise person to person contact

-Parents will not be invited into school when dropping off or collecting. There will be no parents' evenings, book looks, workshops etc until further notice.

-We will continue to provide work to do from home for those not in school although this is not likely to be the same work as completed in school as much of requires teacher input. Please bear in mind that teachers are planning twice -for children in school and at home!

-Support for those who need it will be available from external agencies - TAMHS, Trailblazers, SALT.

-Any inhalers or other care plan medication previously taken home before school closures must come back to school and be handed to the class teacher.

-Uniform expectations will remain the same

-Expectations of behaviour will remain the same although we understand it may take a while to re-establish routines.

-The company that deliver our free fruit for F Stage and KS1 pupils is not operating. If you would like our child to have a fruit or vegetable snack (only), please provide this from home.



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-It is not advised that children wear face masks/ coverings to school. If you would like your child to wear a mask/covering, you will need to provide this from home and the child will need to wear this at all times (except when they are eating) as there is a chance it may be placed on surfaces or not disposed of properly.

-If your child is in school, they will need to stay all day (with the exception of nursery which will only be open in the mornings). We have a carefully structured entrance and exit plan and this would mean extra 'traffic' through the office.

-Apart from a lunch box, one reading book from home and a PE kit, children must not bring in any other items from home.

-There will be no lollipop lady due to staggered start/finish times and a rota of office staff.

-There will be no hot meals available. If your child is entitled to a Free School Meal (including all of R and Y1 who have a universal free school meal) they will be entitled to a free packed lunch. There will be a separate letter sent to explain further how to select options.

-Only children in year 5 (of key worker children) and year 6 will be permitted to walk home alone. Parents will need to sign a consent form and make sure their child is clear about not walking with others.

Please complete key worker form if you wish your child to return to school and they are in years 2/3/4/5. It is much easier for us to plan effectively when we have an idea of numbers likely to be returning.

Further guidance for parents has been issued by the Government which you may find useful:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/reopening-schools-and-other-educational-settings-from-1-june>

If you have any questions, please put these in an email to [surchr@redoaks.org.uk](mailto:surchr@redoaks.org.uk) and I will do my best to respond quickly.

Once again, thank you for your patience whilst we try and work out these logistics.

Best Wishes

Rachel Such

**Headteacher**



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