



# Olney Infant Academy *Happily Learning Together*



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Dear Parents/Carers

As you will now be aware, following the Government press conference yesterday, unfortunately due to the rapid rise in COVID cases in Milton Keynes, Primary Schools have been asked to delay full opening until at least the 18<sup>th</sup> January. We have been listed as one of the areas on the National Contingency Framework.

For the majority of pupils, our OIA online remote learning will be used from Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January. We are well prepared for this and will be providing children with 3 live lessons a day as well as topic tasks, independent learning, links to online activities and recorded stories. This provision is very different from the Lockdown in March. The physical school will only open for the Emergency Care of children of critical workers, and our vulnerable children. If you fall into this category (list can be found at the end of this letter) please complete the [FORM](#) as a matter of urgency as we really need to know numbers to help us to organise staffing. We urge you, if you meet the criteria but can work from home to please keep your child at home.

The children in school will be accessing the same provision as the children at home via Teams for the live lessons and then the follow-on work will be completed in class guided by a teaching assistant. There will be a class teacher on hand for every child whether at home or at school. For children in school, they will access live lessons delivered by a teacher in the year group. This may not be their class teacher, but the lessons will be the same.

As you can imagine, there is a great deal to organise and put in place and I thank you for your patience. I will continue to update you over the coming days.

If your child is in school, they are expected to attend the full day. The school day will run from 8.50am – 2.50pm. Your child must arrive on time.

## Home Learning

The school will provide appropriate learning activities for your child which will be posted daily on Microsoft Teams. In order to provide some interactive teaching, the teachers will be providing



three live lessons a day via Teams. We appreciate these times may not work around your own work so these will be recorded and available for 24 hours via Teams. The teachers will take a register for each live lesson. Please refer to the home learning agreement previously sent out for your child's safety.

Live lesson times (subject to change)

	FS	Year 1	Year 2
Live lesson 1	10	9.30	9
Live Lesson 2	11.30	11	10.30
Live Lesson 3	2	1.30	1

Your child's teacher will also be available via Teams chat and email to provide guidance and support during their usual timetabled school day 8:50-2.50pm.

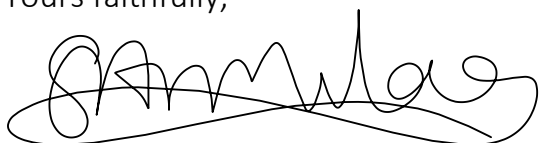
Please log into Teams if you have not already to familiarise yourself with how it works. I will be sending out some Teams guidelines and expectations over the coming days.

Your child does not need access to a laptop or PC to access the remote teaching and activities. This can be accessed via a mobile phone or tablet.

We appreciate that this is a difficult and worrying time, and we would like to thank everyone for their continued support.

I will be sending additional correspondence as things develop and we will be contacting all parents and carers of the children classed as vulnerable tomorrow (1<sup>st</sup> January).

Yours faithfully,



Sarah Armitage

**Critical workers definition**

Parents whose work is critical to the coronavirus (COVID-19) response include those who work in health and social care and in other key sectors outlined in the following sections.

**Health and social care**

This includes, but is not limited to, doctors, nurses, midwives, paramedics, social workers, care workers, and other frontline health and social care staff including volunteers; the support and specialist staff required to maintain the UK's health and social care sector; those working as part of the health and social care supply chain, including producers and distributors of medicines and medical and personal protective equipment.

**Education and childcare**

This includes:

- childcare
- support and teaching staff

- social workers
- specialist education professionals who must remain active during the coronavirus (COVID-19) response to deliver this approach

### **Key public services**

This includes:

- those essential to the running of the justice system
- religious staff
- charities and workers delivering key frontline services
- those responsible for the management of the deceased
- journalists and broadcasters who are providing public service broadcasting

### **Local and national government**

This only includes:

- those administrative occupations essential to the effective delivery of the coronavirus (COVID-19) response
- or delivering essential public services, such as the payment of benefits, including in government agencies and arms length bodies

### **Food and other necessary goods**

This includes those involved in food:

- production
- processing
- distribution
- sale and delivery
- as well as those essential to the provision of other key goods (for example hygienic and veterinary medicines)

### **Public safety and national security**

This includes:

- police and support staff
- Ministry of Defence civilians
- contractor and armed forces personnel (those critical to the delivery of key defence and national security outputs and essential to the response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak)
- fire and rescue service employees (including support staff)
- National Crime Agency staff
- those maintaining border security, prison and probation staff and other national security roles, including those overseas

### **Transport**

This includes those who will keep the air, water, road and rail passenger and freight transport modes operating during the coronavirus (COVID-19) response, including those working on transport systems through which supply chains pass.

### **Utilities, communication and financial services**

This includes:

- staff needed for essential financial services provision (including but not limited to workers in banks, building societies and financial market infrastructure)
- the oil, gas, electricity and water sectors (including sewerage)
- information technology and data infrastructure sector and primary industry supplies to continue during the coronavirus (COVID-19) response
- key staff working in the civil nuclear, chemicals, telecommunications (including but not limited to network operations, field engineering, call centre staff, IT and data infrastructure, 999 and 111 critical services)

- postal services and delivery
- payments providers
- waste disposal sectors

### **Vulnerable children and young people**

Vulnerable children and young people include those who:

- are assessed as being in need under section 17 of the Children Act 1989, including children and young people who have a child in need plan, a child protection plan or who are a looked-after child
- have an education, health and care (EHC) plan
- have been identified as otherwise vulnerable by educational providers or local authorities (including children's social care services), and who could therefore benefit from continued full-time attendance, this might include:
  - children and young people on the edge of receiving support from children's social care services
  - adopted children, those at risk of becoming NEET ('not in employment, education or training')
  - those living in temporary accommodation, those who are young carers
  - those who may have difficulty engaging with remote education at home (for example due to a lack of devices or quiet space to study)
- others at the provider and local authority's discretion