



# OIA news

Issue 12  
05.03.2021

*Congratulations, you made it to the end of remote learning at home! What a fabulous achievement everyone!*

Dear Families,

I am sure there will be mixed feelings in households this weekend; many will be relieved and really ready, and then there will be some sad and apprehensive. Whatever the feelings are for you, we are here for you and your children, so please come and speak to us if you are feeling worried.

We are incredibly proud of our community and how everyone has worked together to get through the past 2 months. We are ready and excited about welcoming everyone back through the doors on Monday and we have everything crossed for a lovely end of spring term and then a fantastic summer term of learning, smiles, fun and a bit more normality.

In general, life at school will return to the set-up we had prior to lockdown. Please refer to the OIA news sent out last week for all the information needed. FAQs are attached at the end again this week too.

Here a few additional reminders for Monday's full return:

**Medication:** If your child needs to keep any medication in, please don't forget to bring this in on Monday morning, to pass to your child's class teacher.

**Water bottles:** Please provide a named water bottle for your child to keep on their desk. This will come home every day for washing.

**PE Days:** Your child's PE days will return to the same days as the Autumn term Friday Round-Up their PE days for the following week.

**Reading Diaries:** Children will need to bring their Reading Diaries into school with them daily.

**Social distancing:** Please continue social distancing when on site, including when on the playgrounds, and we ask that all adults wear face coverings (unless they are exempt).

Please remain vigilant: Even though case numbers are reducing now, and restrictions are finally starting to ease, it is important that we all continue to remain vigilant for any symptoms of COVID-19. Please do not send your child into school if they display any of the following symptoms:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot, for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
- a loss or change to sense of smell or taste – this means they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Have a fabulous weekend. See you all on Monday!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sarah Armitage', with a stylized, cursive script.

Sarah Armitage

**Returning to School March 2021**  
**Frequently Asked Questions for Parents**

When is school reopening?	In line with government guidance we will be open for all pupils from Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> March 2021.		
What will happen in the run up to school opening (week beginning 1 <sup>st</sup> March)	Lessons will continue to take place next week, via Microsoft Teams, as normal, with the exception of Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> March, when there will be just 2 live lessons in the morning. In the afternoon the class teachers will set some small group check ins to give the children a chance to hear from their teacher what to expect on the 8 <sup>th</sup> and to be reassured. Parents can also ask any questions at this point.  All lessons next week will have follow on learning activities, however, any feedback for these activities will be completed when the children return.		
Will the children be in bubbles?	The children will be in the same group bubbles as they were before Christmas.		
Will there be whole school assemblies?	No, until further notice we will not have whole in-person Celebration Assembly will return online and class assemblies will replace whole school ones		
How will the classes be organised?	In line with government guidance, full classes will be returning. We will endeavour to minimise furniture in rooms and to have tables organised in such a way as to ensure as much social distancing as possible (year 2 only). FS and Year 1 will have reduced contact and set places on the carpet and additional cleaning will be in place of shared resources. Where at all possible, all activities will be kept in classrooms and we will limit the number of adults actively working in each year group. In addition: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff will be requested to avoid close face to face contact and minimise time spent within one metre of anyone</li> <li>• Staff will be undergoing lateral flow tests twice weekly as advised by the DFE.</li> </ul>		
What should children bring to school?	Children can bring their bags to school but should limit what is in there to what they absolutely need for example a lunchbox, water bottle, reading book and diary.		
What should children wear?	Children should wear normal school uniform other than on the days when they come 'PE Ready' when they will wear their school PE kits. These 'PE Ready' days will be the same days as the Autumn term.		
What time will school start and finish and where will they need to go?	House	School drop-off window	School collection window
	Hopkins-Smith	8.40 -8.50	2.50 – 3.00
	Newton	8.40 -8.50	2.50 – 3.00
	Cowper	8.45 – 8.55	2.55 – 3.05
	Mann	8.45 – 8.55	2.55 – 3.05
Are parents allowed on site?	One adult can come onto the school site for drop off and collection. <b>As before, we ask that ALL parents (unless for a medical reason) wear facemasks when coming on to the school site.</b>		
How will playtimes and lunchtimes be managed?	Year groups will have their own designated playground spaces  Year 2 will be eating in their classrooms and Foundation and Year 1 in the hall		
Will wrap around care be offered?	Wrap around care will be provided. Book as usual via parentmail		

What will the children be learning about in school?	The priority in the first few days will give all the opportunity to get the pupils back in to the school experience. We expect to run a full curriculum with all subjects delivered whilst remaining Covid secure, so lessons such as PE (when appropriate) will be altered to ensure safety. We will also do everything we can to ensure we cover any gaps we have identified as soon as possible but in a carefully planned and engaging way to ensure that the children feel that their learning is purposeful but achievable for all.
Are there any special rules for handling resources?	Yes. Classroom based resources, such as books, will be used and shared within the bubble and cleaned regularly. Resources that are shared between classes or bubbles, will be cleaned frequently and meticulously and always between bubbles, or rotated to allow them to be unused for the recommended time frame. Prior to and after using any specialist equipment pupils and staff will be required to sanitise their hands. Teachers can still provide feedback through exercise books. This is no more a risk than touching items in the supermarket. It is up to colleagues if they wish to wear gloves but normal hand and face hygiene must be followed. Colleagues may wish to quarantine the books for a period before taking them home and if this is desired then it should be built into normal feedback routines. This is not compulsory.
Do I have to send my child to school?	The government expectation is that all children will be required to attend school - it is a legal requirement. As a school we are doing everything we can to make the school safe and secure so that we can follow government guidance whilst also keeping all our children and staff as safe as possible which is always our priority. Please talk to us if you have any questions or concerns and we will work with you to reach a solution which enables your child to be in school if at all possible. Our usual attendance policy (on our website) now applies
What homework will the children get?	Homework will now be set via Microsoft teams There is an expectation that children read every day. We are aware children are unable to change their reading books as often as we would like due to the need to quarantine them, so we urge you to use Oxford Owl for free access to suitable reading books in addition until our usual free book swapping can resume
What will happen if we have to close a bubble?	
If your child displays symptoms during the school day	The child and any siblings will need to be collected to go home immediately. We will be in touch with the parents/carers of that child to explain exactly what you should do, how to inform us of test results and what the next steps will be.
If your child has a positive test result,	The child will need to isolate for 10 days and the rest of the family for the required amount of time under current national guidance
If not your child but someone in your child's group bubble tests positive,	We will immediately put additional steps in place to further seal that bubble and inform all parents/carers with children in that bubble immediately via parent mail - we will endeavour to follow these up with a phone call to ensure all the get the message as soon as possible. All children in that bubble will need to be collected straight away and quarantine at home for 10 days (any other member of your family does not have to quarantine unless they are displaying symptoms).  If we have to close a bubble, live lessons will be put in place for the isolating children via Teams.