



Ryan Avenue, Ashmore Park, Wolverhampton, WV11 2QQ

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**Head Teacher:** Mr S Arnold

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> August 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

As the end of the holiday draws near, I write looking forward to the start of the new term and to welcoming back our existing Oak Meadow children and to welcome and properly greet our new Reception children. I hope the summer holiday has been relaxing and kind to you and your son/ daughter is looking forward to starting a new class and is/are looking forward to experiencing lots of new learning.

Given the imminence of the new term, I detail information which will support preparations for your child's start to the term.

### Our 2021 – 2022 Staffing

Staffing	Classteachers and Teaching Assistants
Reception	Mrs Bristow Miss Thwaites Mrs Malia Mrs Bradney Mrs Sadler
Year 1	Miss Billingsley Miss Blunt Mrs Welsh Mrs Brookes Miss Head
Year 2	Miss Hague Miss Tolley Miss Tomlinson Mrs Guy Mrs Lakin-Jones
Year 3	Mr Clarkson Mrs Brain Mrs Sherry Mrs Cooke
Year 4	Miss Bates Miss Findlay Mrs Baker Mr Godwin Miss Brown
Year 5	Mrs Holmes Mr Hartland Mrs Chapman Mrs Mincher Miss Perry
Year 6	Mrs Worrallo Miss Johnston Mr Lane Mrs Hardwick-Dawson

#### Office Staff

Miss Mills Ms Simcox

#### Home School Liaison Officer

Miss Parker

#### Site Staff

Mr Turner Mr Simmonds

#### Music Teachers

Mr Crane (Wednesdays)

Mr Masson (Thursdays)

As previously shared, there have been changes to our Leadership Team and I welcome Mr Lane as Acting Deputy Headteacher and Miss Billingsley as our new Senior Leader. If you have any enquiries or questions relating to your child's learning, please speak to either a Senior Leader or to your child's classteacher. A member of staff will always be on duty at the start and end of the day and staff will be happy to speak to you when dropping off or collecting your child. Alternatively, please email your enquiry to the school's email address and Miss Mills will ensure the email is passed on to the member of staff concerned.

### Start of Term Arrangements

School will open fully to all year groups on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September. Returning to the normal school day prior to our staggered start and end times of last year, we encourage all children to enter school at 8.45a.m. whereupon

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morning registration activities will take place prior to the formal start of the school day and calling of the statutory registration at 8.55a.m. Children will enter and exit school via the following doorways:

Reception - Class RT via the Reception classroom communal area and Class RB, via their classroom door.  
(Staff will be available on the first day to signpost you to your child's entry door.)

Years 1 – 3 via their classroom doors accessible from the Key Stage One or Key Stage Two playground areas.

Year 4 via the side door entrance following the pathway past the school hall, adjacent to Coppice school field.

Year 5 via the door between Year 1 and Year 2 classrooms leading to upstairs, accessible from the Key Stage Two playground.

Year 6 via the door next to the school's main entrance/ office at the front of the school.

The children's break time will be at 11.00a.m. and we kindly remind you of our policy of healthy eating and therefore ask that children bring in fruit, healthy snack bars and refrain from eating crisps. Thank you.

Lunch times for each year group will be as follows:

12.00p.m. – 1.00p.m. Reception

12.20p.m. – 1.20p.m. Year 1

12.30p.m. – 1.20p.m. Years 2-6

Can I please remind you of the universal free meal offer for children in Reception, Years 1 and 2. The menu will be available shortly and children can select a choice of either a hot meal or a picnic bag consisting of sandwiches, crisps (permissible at lunchtimes), fruit, a small cake and a carton of juice. For our younger children, staff will assist them in their choice of foods.

The school day will end at 3.15p.m. and children will exit via the same door as they entered.

### **School Uniform**

In line with our school policies approved by Governors, we insist on the wearing of full school uniform and I am sure I will once again swell with pride upon seeing the smartness of our children – with your support and assistance. Thank you.

Regarding P.E, we kindly ask that your child's kit - consisting of black shorts, a white t-shirt and black pumps - remains in school within your child's locker. Your child's classteacher will inform you of the days when P.E. will take place for their class. This will be detailed within the curriculum newsletter which will be sent out week beginning Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September. As the weather changes over the forthcoming weeks, it will be advisable to include jogging bottoms and a sweat top or hoodie for extra warmth.

### **Sharing of the Year Group's Organisation and Expectations**

As part of looking forward to the year ahead, your child's year group teachers have prepared powerpoints detailing information pertaining to the year group and its organisation and expectations. They will be available on the school's website from Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September. The powerpoint will detail a host of information, for example, curriculum guidelines for the year, homework routines, PE times, access to online learning, behaviour and rewards, educational visits, e.t.c. The powerpoints will be uploaded to the website within the folders entitled: Our Curriculum and Meet the Teacher for accessing.

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## School Holiday/ INSET Dates

Information regarding the Local Authority's holiday dates can be accessed from our website. However, in summary, the school dates for this school year are as follows:

### Autumn Term 2021

- **Term Time:** Thursday 2 September 2021 to Friday 22 October 2021
- **Half term:** Monday 25 October 2021 to Friday 29 October 2021
- **Term Time:** Monday 1 November 2021 to Friday 17 December 2021

### Spring Term 2022

- **Term Time:** Tuesday 4 January 2022 to Friday 18 February 2022
- **Half term:** Monday 21 February 2022 to Friday 25 February 2022
- **Term Time:** Monday 28 February 2022 to Friday 8 April 2022

### Summer Term 2022

- **Term Time:** Monday 25 April 2022 to Friday 27 May 2022
- **Half term:** Monday 30 May 2022 to Friday 3 June 2022
- **Term Time:** Monday 6 June 2022 to Thursday 21 July 2022

...and our INSET Days to support our staff training and development are: Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2021; Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2022; Friday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2022; Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2022 and Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2022. School will be fully closed on these days.

## Before and After School Provision

Breakfast Club and Funsters will commence from the first day of term – Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September. May I please respectfully ask that if you require a Funsters place, a booking is made by contacting Miss Mills or Ms Simcox via email or telephone to book the session/s required as there is a limit on the number of places available. In advance of the session, we kindly ask for the session's payment - made via ParentPay please. This helps us immensely with staffing costs and with the purchase of resources and equipment. Thank you.

New Reception parents/ carers will soon receive a ParentPay letter giving instructions for the setting up of an account. If any questions arise regarding ParentPay, please speak to Miss Mills, our school's Business Manager.

Governors have recently undertaken a review of the costs associated with both Breakfast Club and Funsters and given the increases in staffing costs, Breakfast Club will now be £3 per session. Funsters costs remain the same and are as follows:

Session 1 3:15 – 4:15p.m.	£4.50
Sessions 1 and 2 3:15 – 5:45p.m.	£6.50

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## Changes to Contact Tracing

As a school we will no longer be responsible for conducting routine contact tracing in the event of a confirmed positive case. As from Monday 19th July, NHS Test and Trace now assist either the positive case or in the instance of a child testing positive, the parents or carers to identify close contacts.

We do kindly ask, in line with our absence reporting procedures, for you notify us if your child displays any symptoms or subsequently tests positive.

For information, the following is a summary of guidance provided from the Department for Education

(<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1hKS3zGpiHRCBqQWUeL6V2L6tV8mnMnKO>):

*From Monday 16 August, unvaccinated young people up to the age of 18 years and 6 months and fully vaccinated adults, are no longer required to self-isolate if they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19, or are a close contact of someone with COVID-19.*

*Those identified as a close contact will be informed by NHS Test and Trace that they have been in close contact with a positive case and advised to take a PCR test. We strongly encourage all individuals to take a PCR test if advised to do so. There is no requirement to self-isolate while awaiting PCR test results and so individuals can attend their setting as usual.*

*Children and young people who attend an education or childcare setting and who have been identified as a close contact, should continue to attend their setting as normal.*

## Contact Tracing Journey In education and childcare settings

**IMPORTANT:** If, at any point, a student, pupil or staff member begins displaying symptoms they must follow government guidelines, order a PCR test and self-isolate.



**Signpost to other advice:**

- Support if you're off work while self-isolating: <https://bit.ly/isolatesupport>
- If you're worried about your health, visit <https://www.nhs.uk> or call 111.
- Remote learning advice: <https://bit.ly/covidhomelearning>
- Printable [action list](#) for schools/colleges for children with symptoms

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## School Hygiene Safety Guidelines

Whilst school COVID-19 guidelines have changed, we will continue to maintain some of our systems of controls, for example, maintaining good ventilation within classrooms, concentrated cleaning of frequently touched areas such as door handles and handrails and the promotion of the 'catch it, kill it, bin it' approach. In addition, children will continue to socialise and play within their year groups in their designated playground area. This has also helped enormously with the development of year group relationships and has minimised slips, trips and falls following our analysis of break and lunchtime incidents.

## Looking Forward...

As a staff, we look forward to the start of the term and to seeing all of our Oak Meadow children and to begin a new school year. We have planned a full calendar of events and I look forward to sharing them with you as partners of your child's learning journeys. I also remain resolutely positive and optimistic for a successful school year with minimum disruptions to teaching and learning!

Finally, I hope you all have a happy and relaxing Bank Holiday weekend and I look forward to seeing you next Thursday – 2<sup>nd</sup> September.

Yours sincerely,

*Mr Arnold*

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