

Ryan Avenue, Ashmore Park, Wolverhampton, WV11 2QQ

Email: oakmeadowprimaryschool@wolverhampton.gov.uk

Phone: (01902) 558517 **Fax:** (01902) 558520

Website: www.oakmeadowschool.uk

Head Teacher: Mr S Arnold

Wednesday 9th December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

On Tuesday 8th December, information was received from the Department for Education regarding end of term planning and the responsibility falling upon schools to remain contactable for six days following the end of term on Friday 18th December.

The Department for Education acknowledges the role schools have played in the national effort in trying to limit the spread of the virus leading to additional work over weekends and holidays. Whilst recognising the challenges this has presented, Public Health England has agreed a 6-day window after your child's final day in school this term – Friday 18th December - to remain contactable to assist with contact tracing. Public Health England believes this will allow enough time for positive coronavirus (COVID-19) cases to be identified and confirmed by a test and for relevant contacts amongst the school community to be traced. Following the 6 days ending 24th December, school staff will not be asked to play a part in contact tracing. They further believe that the need to support the tracing process will reduce dramatically over the course of the 6 days as the majority of cases will have been identified earlier in the week.

The following information relates to arrangements regarding positive cases during the Christmas holiday:

Where a pupil or staff member tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), having developed symptoms more than 48 hours since being in school, the school should not be contacted. Parents and carers should follow contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace.

For the first 6 days after teaching ends, if a pupil or staff member tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), having developed symptoms within 48 hours of being in school, the school is asked to assist in identifying close contacts and advising self-isolation, as the individual may have been infectious whilst in school.

School staff are not asked to remain on-call or conduct any contact tracing more than 6 days after the final day of teaching.

Therefore, remaining contactable until Thursday 24th December, we ask you to email oakmeadowprimaryschool@wolverhampton.gov.uk between 9.00 – 10.00a.m. to notify us of a positive case in order that we can advise close contacts to self-isolate. This will be via text message only. Where pupils are required to self-isolate due to contact with a positive case after the first 6 days following the end of term, you do not need to inform us until the first day of the new term, Tuesday 5th January. Please note Monday 4th January is an INSET Day; school will be closed on this day for children.

From tiny acorns mighty oaks grow...



Information pertaining to schools can be accessed via:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak>

Thank you for your support and understanding for what has been a challenging year; we will continue to support our community to keep everyone safe and well.

Yours sincerely,

S Arnold

Mr Arnold

Contact Information

The Department for Education coronavirus (COVID-19) helpline and the PHE Advice Service (option 1) will be available over the holidays to answer any questions you have about coronavirus (COVID-19) relating to education settings and children's social care. These helplines will, however, close on the bank holidays, and have shortened opening hours on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve.

Phone: 0800 046 8687

Opening hours:

24 December – 8am to 4pm

25 to 28 December – Closed

29 to 30 December – 8am to 6pm

31 December – 9am to 4pm

1 January – Closed

2 to 3 January – 10am to 6pm

Until 24 December, the helpline opening hours are:

Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm

Saturday and Sunday from 10am to 6pm

From tiny acorns mighty oaks grow...

