

16th July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

**Our Vision is simple 'To Learn, Be Happy and Achieve our Best.'**

In partnership with parents, carers and families we aim for our children to,

- \* Be independent **learners** who are aware of their strengths and weaknesses and can motivate themselves to engage in and improve their learning.
- \* Feel **safe** and therefore be **happy** because they are heard and understood and to have that understanding acted upon.
- \* **Never, never, never give up!**

A very warm welcome to all our children and their families to our final newsletter of this academic year. Our vision above was shared with you in our very first newsletter at the beginning of the year and even through this most difficult time our children, their families and our staff have continued to demonstrate these values.

As stated in our last newsletter we have been busy preparing for the full re-opening of Alexandra Park Junior School to all children in September. Our risk assessments have been consulted with our governors, staff and unions and are being sent off to the Local Authority Health and Safety Team today. Once this has been approved it will then be shared on our school website for parents to view. Although it will be very different for children when they return in September we look forward to welcoming them all back. Parents should note that it is compulsory that all children attend from September 2020.

### Transition

Although we have not been able to have our usual Year 6 production and parties to celebrate the end of term, we have enabled children and staff to meet with their teachers and children both from this year and for next year. Year 6 teachers and other staff were out in the community last week delivering hoodies and reports for the children. We have also set up team meetings (supervised by teachers) allowing children to meet their friends virtually and to say hello and goodbye to their teachers. We have also made videos with messages for children in year 2 and 6. These can be found by clicking on the links below.

Year 6 Video [http://www.alexandrapark.oldham.sch.uk/?page\\_id=2833](http://www.alexandrapark.oldham.sch.uk/?page_id=2833)

Year 2 Video [http://www.alexandrapark.oldham.sch.uk/?page\\_id=2828](http://www.alexandrapark.oldham.sch.uk/?page_id=2828)



### Returning in September

All children from years 3 to 6 will return to school on Thursday the 3rd of September. Attached to this newsletter are the holiday dates for next year and there will be no changes to this. The only changes we will be making (in order to minimise contact between children and parents of different class/year group bubbles) are to plan for a staggered start and end to the school day.

In order to keep the same schooling hours for the children we have shortened the lunch period and this is also due to cleaning measures that have to take place at lunchtime.

The year group times are as follows:

Year group	Start Time	End Time	Lunch Time
Year 3	8.45am	2.45pm	11.30-12.15pm
Year 4	8.55am	2.55pm	12.00-12.45pm
Year 5	9.05am	3.05pm	12.30-1.15pm
Year 6	9.15am	3.15pm	1.00-1.45pm

It is vital that parents collect bring and collect their children at these times to support minimising contact. In line with our 'Collecting Children Policy' we expect children in years 3 and 4 to be brought to school and collected by one adult. We will of course be in contact with parents in year 5 and 6 so that we know which children are being allowed to walk to school.

We encourage one parent only to bring and collect their child and that parents maintain strict social distancing whilst waiting in the carpark area. We will not be allowing parents into the school play-ground unless they have an appointment to see a member of staff, or any emergency. The staff in the school office will be available to respond to any queries, so please continue to contact us as you have in Lockdown. We encourage parents to avoid public transport as much as possible, if this is not possible please read this guidance.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-safer-travel-guidance-for-passengers>

Uniform is expected to be worn and we ask parents to support us in ensuring that clothes are cleaned regularly throughout the week. Our Uniform Guidance is also attached to this newsletter. Children coming into school should only bring the minimum amount of equipment needed for the day. Items such as Water bottles and packed lunches will be brought into school and taken home at the end of the day. To reduce the number of items brought into school from home, children will be asked to wear their PE kits to school all day on the day they have PE.

The PE times for each year group are:

Classes	Days
1	Tuesday and Wednesdays
2	Tuesday and Thursdays
3	Monday and Tuesdays
4	Monday (Swimming later)
5	Tuesday and Swimming
6	Friday (Swimming later)
7	Wednesday and Thursdays
8	Wednesday and Thursdays
9	Tuesday and Fridays
10	Friday

11	Monday
12	Friday

## School Dinners

In order for the children to safely have their lunch we have doubled the amount of time required in the hall to allow classes/year group bubbles a separate sitting and additional cleaning periods between each sitting. We are aiming to provide a choice of meals for our children and we are arranging for this to be pre-ordered with families at home. Children will still be able to bring their own packed lunches. Please note these changes to the price of school dinners from September will be £2.40.

BREAKFAST



## Breakfast Club (Owl Club) September 2020

We sent information out last week about breakfast club in September as this is a vital service that supports children with nutrition first thing in the morning. This will of course be different to the usual breakfast club as we will have to arrange that children remain in their year group bubbles. We will also have to take into account the number of staff we have available. Taking all this into account we may also have to limit numbers so this will be on a first come first serve basis, with a possible waiting list for children. We thank parents for the responses and will be in touch once a decision has been made.

## After School Clubs/Trips

For the time being we are not going to have any extra-curricular provision available due to children crossing year group bubbles. This will however be under continual review once children are back into school and in new routines. We have however worked very closely with our Swimming provider 'Starfish' and we are able to take small groups of children for their statutory swimming lessons. Year 4 are the year group where this provision will take place.

## IMPORTANT SAFETY ADVICE

A letter was sent out yesterday regarding advice for our families about Coronavirus, returning to school, testing and isolation. This letter is currently being translated for all our families and they can all be viewed on our website:

<http://www.alexandrapark.oldham.sch.uk>

We thank all our families for their support and patience and we are doing everything we can to ensure that children, staff and the wider community have the best possible safety measures in place.

This plan could be subject to change in light of any further government advice and or advice from the Local Authority Health and Safety Team.

## Virtual School Games Award

A huge celebration to all the children and their families and to Mr Clarke for outstanding achievement in us receiving the Virtual School Games Award. This is for our commitment to online physical activity during lockdown. A huge well done!



## Summer Provision

Please find alongside this newsletter information from the Local Authority regarding Summer clubs and provision that will be available to children and their families.

Please ensure that through the Summer holidays that we stay safe. Click the link below which gives more information encouraging young people to keep themselves safe while also adhering to social distancing restrictions that remain in place as we combat COVID-19.

<https://manchesterfire.gov.uk/staying-safe/safe4summer/>

### **Family Information Service Update**

The Family Information Service (FIS) continues to keep up to date information on childcare and services for families with children aged 0-19 years and 0-25 years for children with SEND.

Sign post parents to Family Information Service (FIS):

[https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/200534/family\\_information\\_service](https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/200534/family_information_service)

Following on from questions for clarity from parents and colleagues about understanding the different language/categories around childcare and activities we have put together a table (attached) which explains the **different** types of language people and organisations use, the associated age ranges and direct web-links to services. Please share this with your staff and families to support them in finding activities, information, advice and support particularly over the summer.

If you know of any organisations to add to the service directory or families who are struggling to find childcare then please signpost them to the webpages above in the first instance, following that they can email: [familyinfo@oldham.gov.uk](mailto:familyinfo@oldham.gov.uk)

### **Useful web-links:**

Childcare

<https://www.oldham.gov.uk/hsc/services/results/?categoryIds%5B%5D=157>

Family Information Service

[https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/200534/family\\_information\\_service](https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/200534/family_information_service)

Holiday care/club

<https://www.oldham.gov.uk/hsc/services/results/?categoryIds%5B%5D=163>

Holiday activities

<https://www.oldham.gov.uk/hsc/services/results/?categoryIds%5B%5D=154>

SEND Local Offer

<https://www.oldham.gov.uk/localoffer>



### **Final Message**

I wish to thank all our children for being such superstars over the past few months and it has been so wonderful to hear how hard you have been working at home. It has been fantastic to see and hear about the creative activities that you have been involved in. Thank you to our parents who have enjoyed the calls from teachers and their kind messages of support for staff, we will continue to work closely for the best interests of our children. I also wish to thank such a great team of staff who have gone over and above to ensure that our families are safe, have access to free school meals, have maintained the school building and safety measures and continued to provide a high quality on line learning education for all our children, plus much much more.



We all look forward to seeing our children and their families in September and we wish you all a safe and restful holiday.

Stay safe and stay connected.

Mrs Seabright and all the staff at Alexandra Park Junior School

