



Overfields Primary School - End of Year newsletter

Dream, Believe, Achieve

Dear Parents & Carers,

I can't believe we have finally got to the end of this school year—it will certainly be one we won't forget in a hurry. We are now a part of history; people will talk about the year the schools closed because of a pandemic and children were taught remotely or in bubbles and had to wash their hands all the time!

It's been a very difficult and disrupted time for all pupils, and it continues to be so now with Reception, Year 2, Year 5 and Year 6 having to isolate. It has been particularly frustrating not being able to give our Year 6 class the send-off they so deserved. However, we improvised (as we have done so many times this year!) and held a Teams Leavers assembly to celebrate their achievements over their years at Overfields. All of our pupils have been amazing during the last 18 months. I am extremely proud of them all and how well they have coped. Thank you to all our families for your fantastic support this year and to my amazing staff who have worked so hard to keep life at Overfields going.

Now we need to look forward. Current DFE guidance says that all restrictions are lifted from schools when we come back in September. However we will be getting back to normal with caution and if anything changes (and we know it can at very short notice) we will let you know as soon as possible so please keep an eye on our twitter, (OverfieldsPri), website (<https://overfields.ironstoneacademy.org.uk>) and your class email for any changes we need to make or information we need to share.

From September the plan is:

- No one way system for visitors or mask wearing on site. However, we would ask that you consider giving people space when using the footpaths.
- Children will no longer be taught in bubbles. Classes are allowed to mix but we will start in smaller groups and assemblies may be for a few classes at a time.
- Children and staff can move freely around the school building
- All lunches will be served in the hall
- We will be able to start after school activities again.

PD days for 2021-2022

01.09.2021
24.09.2021
27.09.2021
18.02.2022
27.05.2022
06.06.2022

The additional PD day is to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Dinner money in September remains at £2.25 a day / £11.25 a week)

Please look on our website or check your class email for information about a free summer club many of our pupils will be eligible for. Local venues include St Gabriel's, Rosedene Childcare and Normanby Primary.



School restarts for pupils on Thursday 2nd September.

We hope to see all our pupils on their yards for 8.40am. Staff will be on the yard to help direct families to where they need to go. We look forward to welcoming you all for a new term and a new school year.

Stay safe and look after each other and enjoy a lovely summer break—we all deserve it!

We are planning to be fully open and operational from the 2nd September when pupils return to school. The return will be cautious but optimistic and everything will be done in the best interests of pupils, staff and our community.

Please see below the headline points taken from 'Schools COVID-19 operational guidance July 21' issued by the government

Mixing and bubbles

- From September we aim to be able to mix classes if this is in the best interests of teaching and learning.
- We will have a staggered playtime on Key Stage 2 yard to alleviate the number of pupils on the yard at any one time. All children will return to having their meals in the hall.
- It may become necessary to reintroduce 'bubbles' for a temporary period, to reduce mixing between groups.

Tracing close contacts and isolation

- From August 16th, close contacts will be identified via NHS Test and Trace and schools will no longer be expected to undertake contact tracing.
- From 16 August 2021, children under the age of 18 years old will no longer be required to self-isolate if they are contacted by NHS Test and Trace as a close contact of a positive COVID-19 case. Instead, children will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace, informed they have been in close contact with a positive case and advised to take a PCR test.

'If anyone in school develops COVID-19 symptoms, however mild, we are advised to send them home and they should follow public health advice.'

Face Coverings

If there an outbreak in school, staff may be asked to wear face coverings in communal areas.

Covid Contingency Plan

School have a contingency plan in place should we have several cases in a 14-day period.

Continued safety measures:

- Frequent hand washing and sanitising
- Good ventilation in all teaching areas
- Regular cleaning in school
- Staff to continue testing twice weekly throughout September.

Travelling Abroad

Parents travelling abroad should bear in mind the impact on their child's education which may result from any requirement to quarantine or isolate upon return.

Remote Learning

Where appropriate, we will support those who need to self-isolate because they have tested positive to access learning from home if they are well enough to do so.