



Olney Middle School September 2021 Frequently Asked Questions for Parents and Pupils

(Latest version 1st September 2021)

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have had a good holiday- we can't wait to see everyone tomorrow. Schools as I have said many times, are designed for children, and we are so excited to see them all.

Since July we have had lots of guidance with regards to September and what things will look like following the latest stage of government opening.

Please find below, the latest version of the FAQs regarding how we are organising the school in September. Should you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.

I look forward to seeing you very soon,

My very best wishes,

Glenn Young

At OMS, we have been working hard to commence our analysis and planning of how we can:

- fulfil the expectations required of us
- ensure that the safety of everyone is paramount in all our decisions and actions
- continue to provide a high quality, well balanced curriculum to best support our pupils in their education.

We wanted to provide an FAQ for all to try and answer as many of your questions as possible. It is up to date and accurate as of 1st September but is subject to change should the advice we receive from the government or local health teams advise us to change. We will keep you updated should that become the case and continue to provide details via Marvellous Me.

Please be assured that the safety and wellbeing of children and staff and their families is our absolute priority at all times.

When does the school return after the summer break?	We return from the summer break for all pupils on Friday 3 rd September.
What control measures have the DFE asked us to put in place?	We have been advised to ensure: 1. Ensure good hygiene for everyone. 2. Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes. 3. Keep occupied spaces well ventilated. 4. Follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19.
Will the children be in bubbles?	No, the children will be reverting to being in their current classes, with activities released from this restriction. The most essential part will be the need for ventilation in the classrooms.
Will there be whole school assemblies?	Yes, we will return to an important part of school life, and the hall will be well ventilated for all such events.
How will the classes be organised?	In line with government guidance, full classes will be returning. We will endeavour to keep a minimal amount of furniture in rooms and continue to have tables organised in such a way as to ensure as much social distancing as possible. All areas will continue to be well ventilated.

<p>What should children bring to school?</p>	<p>Children can bring their bags to school but ideally still limit what is in there to what they absolutely need, for example, a lunchbox, water bottle, pencil case (pencil case should ideally have pencil, pen, colouring pencils, ruler and glue stick). They will have access to a peg to store it on. They should not bring their phone to school as we are unable to store them securely and in line with national guidance such as GDPR without the risk of cross-contamination.</p>			
<p>What should children wear?</p>	<p>Children should wear normal school uniform other than on the days when they come 'PE Ready' when they will wear their school PE kits. <u>For the first day (3rd September) all pupils are to wear school uniform.</u></p> <p>We will be reminding pupils of the importance of following the uniform policy strictly (we were understanding last term due to the lockdown and school closure and uniform being outgrown but will now reinforce the policy), and we request that all uniform is labelled. Please ensure appropriate footwear is worn.</p> <p>The link to our two uniform suppliers; https://www.maisies-superstore.co.uk/ https://www.pbuniform-online.co.uk/olneymiddle</p>			
<p>What day will PE lessons be?</p>	<p>3AB Mon Fri</p>	<p>4LG Tue Fri</p>	<p>5SF Mon Fri</p>	<p>6JH Mon Wed</p>
	<p>3SC Tue Thurs</p>	<p>4RH Wed Fri</p>	<p>5NK Mon Fri</p>	<p>6ES Tue Thurs</p>
	<p>3GD Tue Wed</p>	<p>4KM Tue Thurs</p>	<p>5SB Mon Wed</p>	<p>6KT Mon Wed</p>
		<p>4JD Wed Fri</p>		<p>6TOR Tue Thurs</p>
<p>What time will school start and finish and where will they need to go?</p>	<p>School will start at 8:30am with the doors opening and will close at 8.40am. School will end at 3:10pm.</p> <p>At the end of the day, all pupils will finish at 3.10pm.</p> <p>Entrances and Exits will be Year 3 will enter through their classroom doors (they will be well signposted on the first day) Year 4 will use the door they used last year. Year 5 will enter through door 2 Year 6 will enter through the Year 6 door.</p> <p>STAFF WILL BE OUTSIDE ON THE FIRST FEW DAYS TO GUIDE PUPILS TO THE CORRECT ENTRANCES.</p>			
<p>Are parents allowed on site?</p>	<p>We are proud of being an open, welcoming school but will continue to ask that to minimise people on site, we ask pupils to come onto the school site alone where at all possible. We appreciate that this will not be possible for all children, especially at the lower key stage, and we ask parents to be mindful of social distancing when coming on site.</p> <p>If you need to speak to a member of staff, we ask that you phone the school office or email the class teacher rather than visit in person in the first instance.</p> <p>The use of facemasks will (in line with guidance) no longer be advised for staff and visitors, and parents are asked to use their own discretion.</p>			
<p>How will playtimes and lunchtimes be managed?</p>	<p>Playtimes and lunchtimes will return to the normal timings, i.e. the whole school outside for break, and lunch staggered from 12-1 for year 3 and 4 and 12.30-1.30 for year 5 and 6.</p> <p>You will notice the playground has been resurfaced, and Mr Dean will be working with the pupils to design the new markings for the playground.</p>			
<p>Will wrap around care be offered?</p>	<p>Wrap around care will continue to be provided. Please contact ABS to book</p>			

<p>What will the children be learning about in school?</p>	<p>We will be running a full curriculum. Teachers will be busy working on closing any gaps, and ensuring that pupils settle in well after the summer break.</p>
<p>What homework will the children get? What will happen if we have to self-isolate?</p>	<p>This September, we will continue asking pupils to complete their daily tasks such as reading, Spelling Shed and TT Rockstars. We will also continue to be sharing 'learning conversations' for pupils to have with parents which will be through our communication app 'Marvellous Me' with the further addition of any supplementary resources shared through Google Classroom. Should pupils want more independent learning from home, there will be the opportunity to become a 'master' of a subject. The continued use of Google Classroom, will allow us to quickly resume learning for ALL pupils in the event of school closures similar to how it has been over the past few months - this has to be planned for in line with DFE guidance.</p>
<p>Do I need a Parent Pay and Marvellous Me log in?</p>	<p>In their first week, all correspondence will be through letter sent home via paper copy and Marvellous Me, with links also on the school web site, and Facebook. In September, any new parents, including Year 2 parents will receive a letter with the unique code to log in and set up a Marvellous Me account. For Parent Pay if you do not have an account, you will be sent a letter in the first few days showing you how to register.</p>
<p>What will the school do if there is a suspected case of COVID-19?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No one must come into the school if they have coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms, or have tested positive in the last 10 days • When in school, anyone developing COVID-19 symptoms (including symptoms such as continuous cough or a high temperature, or has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell) will be sent home and advised to follow the current national stay at home guidance and book a test. • If a child is awaiting collection, they will be moved, if possible, to a room where they can be isolated behind a closed door, in a room with ventilation and with appropriate adult supervision if required. The adult will maintain a 2 metre distance, where possible, and wear appropriate PPE. • Everyone must wash their hands thoroughly for 20 seconds with soap and running water or use hand sanitiser after any contact with someone who is unwell. • Parents and staff must inform us immediately of any COVID-19 test results. • In line with guidance for schools, we have an outbreak management plan that covers the possibility of bubbles should this be advised by the DFE, Public Health and IFTL. These are dependent on the situation of cases within the school, and community- if numbers rise, we have a plan ready to revert back to strengthening measures.
<p>What does the guidance say about contact tracing and self-isolation for September?</p>	<p>The current guidance states: "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. We would encourage all individuals to take a PCR test if advised to do so."</p>
<p>Do we have advice on self isolation and PCR tests</p>	<p>Attached here, is a link to the latest flow chart for MK Council regarding what to do someone tests positive</p> <p>https://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/UKMK/2021/08/31/file_attachments/1920366/MKC%20Parent%20Carer%20Flowchart%20Covid%2019%2023rd%20Aug%202021%20PP%20FINAL%20VERSION.pdf</p>