

## **End of term Newsletter – July 2020**

### **Dear Parent/carer**

As we embark on the summer holidays, I would like the opportunity to firstly look back and summarise what has happened so far this term. Back in March 2020, the academy closed as recommended by the Department for Education due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This decision was not taken lightly and we have done a tremendous amount of work through April, May, June and July to ensure there has been as little as possible disruption to your child's learning.

To date we have had 25 Key Worker Children/Vulnerable/SEND students attending the academy each day since the beginning of the pandemic. In June, we welcomed back the year 10 students to offer onsite face-to-face support and in July, we were delighted to offer onsite face-to-face support to year 9 students. Throughout this period I am aware some families have lost family members and I am aware of the impact this has had on some Ormesby students. Putting students first is our main priority and to help support students through this difficult period we have collaborated with Middlesbrough and Stockton MIND and CRUSE to offer bespoke support (where needed) to those affected students. A core team of staff have accessed bereavement webinars and remote training to offer day-to-day pastoral support, this will continue in September if need be.

### **Food Parcels**

Throughout this challenging period, almost 200 parcels were delivered over 8 weeks to almost 100 different families. Staff donations as well as contributions from local charities meant we were able to deliver food parcels every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. This project created a great sense of comradery amongst those involved and Ormesby continues to pride itself on helping and supporting the community

### **Free School Meal - Voucher update**

The Government has reviewed its position regarding free supermarket vouchers for students and has confirmed that those in receipt of free school meals in year groups 7 to 11 are eligible for the COVID summer food fund. This will provide you with a voucher to the value of **£90** to cover the summer holiday period. The one off voucher will be available from the 20th July 2020. Until then your weekly vouchers will continue to be processed in the same way. I hope this good news provides you with some comfort but I urge you to contact the school, using the 'Contact Us' button on the school website, if you need any additional support.

For families needing urgent help, please contact Middlesbrough Council Children's Social Care emergencies helpline on :-

- **01642 130700 (during office hours)**
- **01642 524552 (after 5:00pm)**

for information about the services and support available.

## Plans for returning in September

I would now like to give you a brief overview of what plans are in place for students returning and starting in September. Firstly, I must reiterate the importance of following government guidance below to ensure the safety of students and staff:-

**PLEASE DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD IN IF THEY ARE SHOWING ANY SYMPTOMS** including:-

- **New continuous cough or high temperature**
- **Has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell.**

You must ensure you keep your child at home, self-isolate and get a test. Other members of their household (including siblings) should self-isolate for 14 days from when the symptomatic person first had symptoms. **Parents need to inform us immediately of the results of a test.** For further clarity please visit the websites below:-

- [COVID-19: guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection](#)
- [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): getting tested - GOV.UK](#)

If your child tests negative, if they feel well and no longer have symptoms similar to coronavirus (COVID-19), they can stop self-isolating. They could still have another virus, such as a cold or flu in which case it is still best to avoid contact with other people until they are better. Other members of their household can stop self-isolating

If your child tests positive, they should follow the 'stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection' and must continue to self-isolate for at least 7 days from the onset of their symptoms and then return to school only if they do not have symptoms other than cough or loss of sense of smell/taste. If they still have a high temperature, they should keep self-isolating until their temperature returns to normal. Other members of their household should continue self-isolating for the full 14 days. In response to government guidance on maintaining social distance and avoiding unnecessary large gatherings of our young people, each morning there will be a slightly staggered start to the day to ensure students are on site safely and sensibly and can start each day with hygiene routines. Students should not gather together en route and should enter straight into the Academy via their designated route

### Year 7 Students

**Year 7 ONLY** will return to the Academy on Wednesday 2nd September, to be on site for 8:20 am, following this year 7 will be required to attend at 8:00am each day. Please ensure your child arrives on time at the main entrance near reception.

### Year 8, 9, 10 & 11 Students

Year groups 8–11 will return to the Academy on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September following the staggered start times below. Students must arrive on site as follows:-

- Y8 8:05 a.m.**
- Y9 8:10 a.m.**
- Y10 8:15 a.m.**
- Y11 8:20 a.m.**

For these year groups, the entrance has changed. Year groups 8 to 11 are required to enter school from the external side of the sports block entrance. Rest assured there will be staff on duty each morning to direct students to the correct entrance.

### **Transport**

Due to the above staggered starts, it may be that your child needs to catch an earlier bus than usual. I would encourage you to check the bus timetables and ensure journeys are planned in advance. A link to the Arriva bus timetables is given below.

<https://www.arrivabus.co.uk/north-east/timetables/>

Please be reminded that it is mandatory for everyone to wear face coverings when accessing public transport. These will not be provided by school so it is important that you source these yourself before September. There will be stations located within the school grounds where students can safely dispose of or store their face coverings.

Please ensure you remind your child of the importance of social distancing whilst walking to school or when queueing at bus stops. We would encourage students to walk or cycle to school wherever possible.

### **School Meals**

You may be aware; Middlesbrough Local Authority provides the catering service for Outwood Academy Ormesby. The Council has not increased the paid meal price charge to students since 2009.

Following a period of consultation, the Council is now in a position to increase the price of paid school meals. The increase was initially due to take effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020, bringing Middlesbrough broadly in line with prices charged across the other Tees Valley authorities. However, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, this increase was delayed and will now commence from 1st September 2020.

**Current Meal Price:** £2.00

**New Meal Price:** £2.15

Biometric and payment methods will be adjusted accordingly to reflect this new price increase, students entitled to free school meals will not be affected by this increase.

Going forward due to the COVID pandemic, water fountains across all schools are no longer in use. To ensure our students are still able to get a drink we will be providing students with a carton drink at both breakfast and lunch. If students wish to bring their own water to school, please ensure a recyclable water bottle is used. For those students who wish to bring a packed lunch, a disposable bag must be used. Lunch boxes/bags are no longer allowed.

Outwood Grange Academies Trust, a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales with company number 06995649.

Registered office address: Potovens Lane, Outwood, Wakefield, West Yorkshire WF1 2PF.

VAT number: 158 2720 04. Outwood Grange Academies Trust is an exempt charity.

A list of Directors' names is open to inspection at our registered office.

## **Cashless School – ipay impact online payment system**

You may recall Ormesby is now a cashless school. All students must have an account including those students who are eligible for free school meals. Using the following link <https://www.ipayimpact.co.uk/IPI> please follow the instructions and register your child. Paying for school lunch and items such as ties, planners, school trips using cash is no longer available at Ormesby, students must have an *ipay* account for such items.

## **Uniform**

If you have not already done so, please ensure you order your uniform directly through Trutex. For your convenience, a copy of the Trutex flyer is attached to this letter. Alternatively please visit:-

Bambini  
19 Chaloner Street  
Guisborough  
Cleveland  
TS14 6QD - 01287 63942

Please familiarise yourself with uniform policy. A reminder that all shoes must be **PLAIN, BLACK and POLISHABLE**. Any piercings/ false nails/false eyelashes/excessive makeup will be asked to be removed.

The new term will feel different but rest assured with the plans we have in place and the excellent teaching staff your child will be fully supported, safe and happy.

You are welcome to visit the school to see us at any time, however due to the strict guidance to minimise visitors whilst we are in this recovering period from COVID may I ask that you only attend school by appointment only. Please contact reception on 01642 452191 or alternatively email [enquiries@ormesby.outwood.com](mailto:enquiries@ormesby.outwood.com). The school website will continue to be updated with announcements this can be found at [www.ormesby.outwood.com](http://www.ormesby.outwood.com) or visit our school Facebook page.

I wish you a safe and happy summer; I am looking forward to the return of school in September.

Yours sincerely,



Mr Tom Urwin  
**Principal**