



27th May 2020 - AlArbia'a 5 Shawwal 1441

Assalaamu Alaikum – 'Peace be upon you'

Dear Parent,

I hope that you and your family are well. Thank you for all your support during this very difficult time.

As you know, the Government has provisionally decided to open schools to some pupils from the week commencing 1st June. Ministers will confirm this decision on Thursday 28th May when they next review lockdown measures.

School will reopen gradually. Having small numbers of classes returning will help us to keep children safe.

Which pupils will return to school?

Children who have been attending school throughout lockdown will continue to attend on a daily basis.

In addition, children in Early Years, Year 1 and Year 6 have been prioritised for return by the Government.

What about Years 2, 3, 4 and 5?

Children in Years 2-5 will stay at home and continue to benefit from the programme of work that we have set for them. This includes online lessons; study packs provided by the school or through Oak National Academy/BBC Bitesize Daily which will continue until the end of the summer term.

In addition, we will continue to make weekly phone calls to your child to encourage them with their work and let them know how much we care for them.

It may be possible for pupils in these year groups to return to school before we break up in July. At this stage it is too early to make decisions as to whether and how this will happen. We will keep you informed of developments. All decisions relating to increasing the number of children in school will be taken in accordance with Government guidance and in consultation with the trust.

Free School Meals

All children who are eligible for benefits-related free school meals will continue to receive vouchers through the Government's Eatenred scheme. The next free school meal vouchers will be issued for the four-week period from 1st June. If you would like more information about eligibility for free school meals, please visit: <https://www.olivesmallheath.com/pupil-support/free-school-meals/>

Please update us

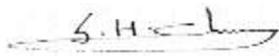
If you are a key worker and require a place for your child (in any year group) to enable you to return to work, please contact info@olivesmallheath.staracademies.org so that arrangements can be made. Parents of children who are already attending school daily do not need to reapply.

Following confirmation from the Government later this week, we will inform you if there are any changes to the arrangements set out in this letter.

Thank you once again for all the support that you give to your child, and for working with us. I am very proud of the way in which our Star community has pulled together to look after each other during the pandemic.

Finally, as you know, Star Academies is running a campaign to support families who may be struggling to afford essential food and hygiene products during this period. If you need help, please let us know.

Yours sincerely



Shawkat Chowdhury

Principal