

Orchard Manor School
John Nash Drive
Dawlish
Devon EX7 9SF



10th July 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are rapidly approaching the summer break at the end of what has been an extraordinary term. Thank you all for your support, working together with you has been key to enabling us to effectively support pupils during this time. The whole staff team have been working extremely to ensure the return of more pupils into school. We are delighted that we have been able to open up our residences this week and welcome some residential pupils in to the residences overnight. We will also be opening the residences next week for some residential pupils.

The majority of pupils have been offered some time in school. It has been great to see pupils back in school and enjoying time with peers and staff. We are really looking forward to welcoming everyone back in September.

Full Opening in September

As we continue to plan for full opening of the school in September, we will be updating our whole school risk assessment in line with government guidance. Once updated, the risk assessment will be available on the school website.

It is the government's intention for all pupils to be back to school in September. Therefore, as of September, attendance to school will be mandatory. Orchard Manor School supports this because:

- Prolonged absence from school is concerning academically, socially - and for some children, from a welfare and safety perspective; and
- The long-term impact of a deep recession, particularly on the poorest families, will be very damaging

The usual rules on school attendance will apply from September, including:

- Parents' duty to secure that their child attends regularly at school where the child is a registered pupil at school and they are of compulsory school age;
- Schools' responsibilities to record attendance and follow up absence
- The availability to issue sanctions, including fixed penalty notices in line with local authorities' codes of conduct

A small number of pupils will still be unable to attend in line with public health advice because they are self-isolating and have had symptoms or a positive test result themselves; or because they are a close contact of someone who has coronavirus. Where this is the case, pupils will be able to access remote learning.

Finding Childcare and summer provision

If you are sending out newsletters please can you advise parents they will be able to find out what childcare will be available on the [Pinpoint](#) Site. If at that time they cannot find childcare they need they can complete the [Unable to Find Childcare Form](#) and the Early Years team will then arrange for one of our team to contact them. Updated information on those settings that will be open in the summer holidays will also be posted on the Devon County Council website soon. Please note this is parent funded provision.

Ofsted Action Plans

As promised, we are sharing a summary of our action plans with parents along with this week's letter so that you can clearly see the areas of improvement we are working towards. The action plans focus on four key areas: attendance, safeguarding, quality of education and cohesive school community. You will see within the action plan document that some areas are highlighted green. These are areas where we have already made significant progress.

You will be able to see from the action plans that we have a clear pathway for improvement within the school. We continue to work closely with the local authority and other SENTient schools to ensure progress continues.

End of Term Reminder

Please be reminded that the last day of the summer term is Tuesday 21st July 2020 but the last day of in school education will be Friday 17th July 2020 as the last two days are being used to support our year 11 and Post-16 leavers and our new pupils transitioning into the school in September. Remote learning for pupils will be provide on the Monday 20th and Tuesday 21st June for all other pupils. On Friday 17th July, the school day will finish at 3:00pm.

We will look forward to seeing pupils in school next week for the last time until September. We will be sharing further information about September next week, however if you do have any questions so far, please let us know.

Best wishes,



Mark Rose
Executive Principal