



Principal: Mr. W R Hughes | BEng (Hons), NPQH
Dudley Street, Bilston, WV14 0LN
Tel: 01902 493797
Web: www.ormistonswbacademy.co.uk
Email: enquiries@oswba.co.uk

'Learning for Life, Securing Success'

WRH/ALA July 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

As we come to the end of a very difficult and strange academic year, I want to start by thanking you for your support during the COVID-19 Virus pandemic. It has been a challenging year for all of us and your support has been very much appreciated.

We have really missed the students and as you will be aware the Government has released official guidance for the return of all students to school in September. I know that many of you will be anxious about your child's return and we hope we can offer you reassurance that as always, the safety and wellbeing of our students and staff is at the heart of every decision we make.

However, life at school will be very different for all of us and we will need to adapt to a new way of working. This letter will outline these new systems and practices that will keep us all safe. In welcoming all children back in September, we have been asked to minimise the contact that a student has during the school day to reduce the risk of transmission. This will be achieved through keeping year groups separate (in 'bubbles') and through maintaining distance between individuals. Consistent groups reduces the risk of transmission by limiting the number of students in contact with each to only those within their year group only. Maintaining 'bubbles' that do not mix, makes it easier in the event of a positive case to identify those who need to self-isolate.

Each Year group will have their own dedicated floor/zone, where they will be based for all of their lessons, with their own toilet facilities and dedicated entrance and exit points. We are incredibly lucky to have Mr Pumphrey, a full trained Medical Technician as our First Aid officer. Our usual First Aid provision will continue and PPE will be used with any suspected COVID-19 cases.

All students will be studying the full curriculum from September with only minor changes to certain practical activities. In addition, every child will receive 30 minutes a day of **C.O.R.E. Extra** to support and nurture their return to the academy.

Arrival and Dismissal times

We have had to temporarily change our start and end times of the school day for different year groups to stagger the number of children entering the building at any one time. Please ensure your child adheres to these times as we are unable to allow them into the building at times other than those allocated. Regrettably, we cannot meet requests for siblings to come into or leave school at the same time as this will compromise the 'bubble' safety for other children.

Attendance

It is vital for all children to return to school to minimise as far as possible the longer-term impact of the pandemic on children's education, wider development and well-being. Shielding advice for all students will pause on 1st August, subject to a continued decline in the rates of community transmission which means that all children can return to school. You can find more advice at COVID-19-'shielding'guidance for children and young people. Please be advised that we will operate our usual attendance policy that can be found on the website. All students will be expected to return in September. If you have any concerns regarding this, please make contact prior to the summer break so that staff can put in any required support to ensure full attendance. We have been advised that the Local Authority will follow normal processes with immediate effect, which will include penalty notices and court proceedings for none attendance.

Catering Provision

From September, and until government guidelines are relaxed, the Academy will provide a revised menu. A very limited offer will be available for students during Break and the Academy advise that, where possible, students are sent with suitable snacks. A full range of hot and cold lunch items will be available during Lunchtime, served to individual year groups, from the restaurant. The Academy encourage the use of ParentMail to top-up student accounts with lunch money, where possible. If you experience difficulty accessing ParentMail please e-mail enquiries@oswba.co.uk



Principal: Mr. W R Hughes | BEng (Hons), NPQH
 Dudley Street, Bilston, WV14 0LN
 Tel: 01902 493797
 Web: www.ormistonswbacademy.co.uk
 Email: enquiries@oswba.co.uk

'Learning for Life, Securing Success'

Uniform

Full school uniform must be worn at all times with no exceptions. There is no need for further arrangements other than normal personal hygiene and washing of clothes following a day in a school. Uniforms do not need to be cleaned any more often or differently than usual. **When your child has PE they will need to wear their full Ormiston SWB PE kit to school for the day** as we will be unable to mix year group 'bubbles' in the changing rooms. You and your child will be informed in advance of when this is.

Breakfast Club & Enrichment Clubs

Due to staggered start and finish times to the school day we regrettably will be unable to offer this provision in the Autumn term.

Detentions

Our conduct policy will continue to operate and this will include detentions. However, students will remain in their year group bubbles for detentions.

Exams

We recognise that students who are studying GCSE, A level or equivalent courses, but are not due to take exams until 2021, will have experienced disruption to their education this year. We are working with Ofqual and the exam boards to develop our approach to next year's exams in light of this and will keep you updated.

Equipment

It is vital that **all** students have a bag/rusack big enough for their exercise books. They will be bringing their books home every night and must remember to bring the correct ones back in the morning. They will also need **a pencil case with pen, pencil, eraser, ruler and calculator.** Equipment will be not be shared amongst different year groups, **so each child must be fully organised.**

When does each year group return to school?

Tuesday 1st September

Whole Staff INSET Day – No students in school

Wednesday 2nd September

Year 7 students will return to school	(0900 – 1500)	Main Academy Reception entrance
---------------------------------------	---------------	---------------------------------

Thursday 3rd September

Years 7 students	(0900 – 1500)	Main Academy Reception entrance
Year 11 students will return to school	(0845 – 1530)	Dudley Street front gate
Year 12 students will return to school	(0915 – 1530)	Main Academy Reception entrance

Friday 4th September

Years 7 students	(0900 – 1500)	Main Academy Reception entrance
Year 11 students	(0845 – 1530)	Main Academy Reception entrance
SWB6 students (Year 12 & 13)	(0915 – 1530)	Main Academy Reception entrance

Monday 7th September

Years 7 students	(0900 – 1500)	Main Academy Reception entrance
Years 8 students will return to school	(0915 – 1515)	Dudley Street front gate
Years 9 students will return to school	(0845 – 1445)	Main Academy Reception entrance
Years 10 students will return to school	(0900 – 1500)	Astro Turf entrance
Year 11 students	(0845 – 1530)	Dudley Street front gate
SWB6 students	(0915 – 1530)	Main Academy Reception entrance

Video walkthroughs will be available on our website shortly.

Finally, we know that you will be apprehensive, but the safety of your children and our staff is at the forefront of all that we are doing. Therefore, we ask that:

- All children keep at a 2 metre distance from all staff including their teacher
- Children maintain good hygiene and wash their hands regularly
- Children adopt good respiratory hygiene: catch it, bin it, kill it
- Children do not attend school if someone in the household has a confirmed case of COVID 19 or is showing symptoms
- Parents make an appointment before visiting the academy. Regrettably we may have to turn away visitors who do not have an appointment

Please be assured that in addition to the measures stated above we have:

- A dedicated health and safety risk assessment for COVID
- Enhanced cleaning including cleaning frequently touched surfaces
- A quarantine area for those displaying symptoms of COVID
- Plans to fully engage with the NHS Test and Trace process. (Please ensure your contact details are up to date. If your child shows symptoms, **we MUST be able to contact you** at all times). If your child displays symptoms. Test kits will be issued, where available, or families will be instructed to get a test completed. The school must also contact local health protection officers.

Also enclosed in this pack a range of information that will enable you to support your son/daughter at the academy from September 2020. There are a variety of documents and I urge you to read all the information carefully before **signing the Parent Charter** and then return to us with your son/daughter during the first week of the new term.

To ensure that we make the best possible start to the new academic year in September, we would like to remind our students and parents of some of the academy's usual expectations. A full list outlining all of our expectations is in the handbook in this pack, but the key ones we would like to draw to parents' attention are:

Mobile Phones and Equipment

Once students are in the building phones must be **NOT SEEN and NOT HEARD (including Break & Lunchtime)**. We encourage students to leave all expensive personal items at home. We cannot take responsibility for everyone's phones, iPods, jewellery etc. All losses are at owner's own risk.

Uniform

All uniform can now be purchased from San's Kidzwear in the Bilston Indoor Market

- The uniform code states clearly that **plain black polishable shoes** must be worn
- Trousers must be **BLACK**. Trousers that are 'skinny' or leggings like are **not allowed** to be worn for school
- Skirts must be the official SWB skirt with logo from our supplier
- Jewellery is restricted to a watch and one small stud earring in each ear
- Facial piercings or extreme hairstyles (no tramlines etc.)/ Extreme hair dyes/extreme or excessive makeup are not permitted. Fake nails are not permitted
- **Any student who fails to wear appropriate footwear or academy uniform will be placed in Internal Exclusion (I.E.) until the situation is resolved.**

We all appreciate that these are unique times and that September will be a very different start to the new academic year. It will be a challenge for all of us. Please keep up to date by checking your emails and text messages from the academy.

Please have a wonderful and safe summer break, I look forward to working in partnership with you again in September.

Yours sincerely,



Rod Hughes
Principal.