



ORCHARD HEAD

Orchard Head J, I & N School
Orchard Head Lane
Pontefract
West Yorkshire
WF8 2NJ
T: 01977 723495
W: orchardhead.patrust.org.uk
E: admin@orchardhead.patrust.org.uk

1st March 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Return to School – Monday 8 March 2021

I hope this letter finds you and your families safe and well. You will be aware that last Monday the Government published its long-awaited guidance and plans for all pupils to return to school from Monday 8 March. With this in mind, I want to share some information with you about how our school will operate when pupils return.

Start Date

All pupils in all year groups will return to school on Monday 8 March. Attendance is compulsory, and your child should only be absent from school if he/she has tested positive for Covid-19, is symptomatic, self-isolating or otherwise unwell.

School Logistics

The school will operate in the same way as it did during the Autumn term. Our priority is, and continues to be, the safety and wellbeing of our community and as such our system of controls remains in place, including staggered start and end times to the school day, contained class 'bubbles' and enhanced cleaning. This will be communicated fully with pupils on their return. A comprehensive reminder of our logistical approach to school re-opening can be found on our website under the communications tab (see link below). The relevant information is contained within the 'Return to School March 2021' document.

<https://orchardhead.patrust.org.uk/coronavirus-update/>

Government Guidance

Our re-opening plans are based on the most up to date national guidance. Much of the content in our plans will be familiar to you, as it replicates what was previously in place. Key changes to the government guidance can be found via the link below:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/963541/Schools_coronavirus_operational_guidance.pdf

Risk Assessment

We continue to have a robust risk assessment in place that will be validated by external health and safety consultants. This will be published on the website in due course.

Finally

Our staff and I are really looking forward to welcoming all our pupils back to school next Monday. We have dearly missed those that have been isolating and learning from home.

I sincerely thank you all for the efforts you have made to support our pupils over the past couple of months in regard to remote learning. I also acknowledge the huge efforts made by our entire community to keep our children safe and well.

I hope the contents of this letter bring you the reassurance you need. If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to get in touch with the school.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Mitchell', written in a cursive style.

Mr J Mitchell
Headteacher

