

23 June 2020

Outwood Academy Danum

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Dear Parents/ Carers,

I am writing to thank you for the support you have given to our academy over this difficult time. When we re-opened the academy on Monday 15th June we were thrilled to see students in the academy again and did not anticipate that we would be closing again so soon. Students and staff felt safe and we had lots of smiles as we started to support year 10 and 12 students again after such a long gap. One student said to me 'I thought it would be boring, but it has been great fun' as they left. I think everyone was stunned by how fast the day went and how much great learning had taken place. I felt we had had a fantastic week.

In order to make school safe for year 10 and 12 students to return we put an extremely extensive risk assessment in place, this can be viewed on the academy website. Our risk assessment ensures social distancing and limits the possibility of virus transmission. Every desk in each classroom is placed at least two metres from other students and teachers' desks. We have one desk per student and each student has their own personal equipment which no one else touches. We have separate entrances and exits for students in each bubble, separate toilets and scheduled handwashing breaks. Students do not move between lessons and remain in their same classroom. Hand gel is available at entrances, in classrooms and on corridors around school and everyone is reminded to use it and to keep two metres apart. We have shown hand washing and 'catch it, kill it, bin it' videos to students and staff and provided tissues in every room. Every aspect of DfE guidance has been adhered to.

Unfortunately the member of our community who has contracted covid-19 was potentially contagious when they last attended school on Monday 15th June, our first day of re-opening. They had a positive test result on Saturday 20th June. This means that some students and staff need to self-isolate until 30th June, 14 days after possible contact. Social distancing was maintained throughout their time in school and this significantly limits the chances of anyone having caught the virus.

On Saturday 20th June, the academy took immediate action. We identified everyone who was in the vicinity of the member of our community with covid-19 at any time and began ringing parents and staff. We took the decision to take more precautions than we needed to by closing the academy for a week, week commencing 22nd June. We communicated with parents from all year groups via text message and rang everyone who might attend as normal on Monday 22nd June to ensure they knew to remain at home. We had already performed a deep clean of the academy on Friday 19th June in line with our scheduled cleaning timetable but are deep cleaning it again during the course of this week, whilst closed.

As Monday 15th June was the first day of re-opening it is very unlikely that the virus was caught by the individual in school. I know that many of you have expressed concern for the person who has covid-19. I am pleased to be able to inform you that whilst still unwell they are improving. I would like to offer them my very best wishes for a continued and speedy recovery.

We will always take our students', staff's and community's safety extremely seriously. We believe we have taken a 'belt and braces' approach to this situation as we want to ensure that there is absolutely no ongoing risk. I know you would expect nothing less.

Again, I would like to thank you for your support. When we re-open on 29th June we will continue to offer educational support to students in year 10 and year 12 and really look forward to seeing everyone back in school when it is safe to do so.

Yours Faithfully,



Jayne Gaunt

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.