



**Orchard Mead Academy**

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**Principal:** Mr I Patel

Dear Parent/ Carer,

I hope this letter finds you and your families well and in good health. I hope you managed to have a good break over the Easter period. A few reminders at the start of this term to ensure clarity.

**Covid-19 – Risk Assessment**

The risk assessment and processes in school remain as we go in to the Summer Term. The use of face coverings in classrooms continues to be strongly recommended for students and all stakeholders have been educated around the importance of wearing the facemask and our responsibility to protect others and ourselves in close proximity. Students will continue to be expected to wear face coverings in the communal areas such as corridors when they are moving between lessons and activities. This will be reviewed next month in line with Step 3 of the National roadmap. All other safety measures remain in place including regular asymptomatic testing, increased hygiene, ventilation and social distancing where possible.

A Reminder that if your child is testing at home using lateral flow tests, you must report their result to NHS Test and Trace as soon as the test is completed either online or by telephone as per the instructions in the home test kit. A positive result must be followed up with a confirmatory PCR test (as these tests are not conducted in a controlled environment). Please notify the school if your child tests positive so we can take the necessary precautions and your child must only return if the PCR test is negative or they have completed the full isolation period.

Please remember not to send your child to school if they or anyone in their household:

- Has a persistent cough
- A high temperature or
- A loss of taste or smell

I would like to take this opportunity to wish families celebrating a Happy Vaisakhi. A reminder that with all festivities during this pandemic, please ensure all occasions celebrated are in line with guidance issued.

**Uniform and Equipment**

As previously communicated, we had a key focus on uniform and equipment before the Easter break. Students had settled well back in to school and the routine of standing behind desks for uniform and equipment checks has been very successful. By having pencil cases and reading books out on desks, this allowed our staff to support students with having the correct equipment ready to learn every lesson. To support students with having all the correct equipment, the school will be loaning out calculators to those students who do not have the correct calculator this week. A separate message will be sent to parents where this applies. Thank you for your ongoing support



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**Parent Feedback**

Last term, a link was sent out to parents to be able to give feedback on a range of questions. Thank you to those parents who completed the survey and were able to give extensive feedback on the school. It is always a pleasure to read the positive comments shared with many based around the support during the lockdown period. I also have taken note of feedback around improvements we can make as an Academy and this will be reflected in our communication this term. Where there is very specific feedback to your child, please do get in touch directly with the school so we can address any individual matters. As always, please feel free to email [info@orchard-tmet](mailto:info@orchard-tmet) if you have any queries or feedback.

Look forward to a very good term for all stakeholders at the Academy.

Best regards



Imtiaz Patel  
Principal