

28th April 2020

Dear parents, carers and children of Clarksfield,

I hope you are all managing to stay safe and well in these very strange times. Hopefully, we will be back to some resemblance of normal very soon.

I wanted to write to you about a number of things:

Home Learning

I appreciate these are very challenging times. Some of you will be self-isolating or shielding, you may know family or friends who are ill with Covid-19, some of you are still working either in your workplace or from home, and some of you are providing essential services, for which everyone is extremely grateful. We know that your main priority, at the moment, is to keep your family as safe and as healthy as possible. Managing to support children with their learning in these conditions is an added pressure.

Please try to do what you can to support the children with their learning and send us any work your child has done: we love to see it. If your child is stuck or you need help with any aspect of your child's learning, please let us know. We are here to help.

We are contacting everyone at least once a week to check how you are and we have already helped a number of families who have found this time a real challenge for a number of reasons. Please ask if you need any help whatsoever.

When your children return to school (whenever that is) we will be ready and will make sure they have all the opportunities to get back on track. That is our job and the team at OA Clarksfield are very good at.

We hope you can also find time to engage in the fun activities that we don't always have time to do with our children: baking, gardening, drawing and enjoying a walk as part of your daily exercise.

Free School Meal Vouchers

As you will be aware from my letter dated April 3rd 2020, we now issue food vouchers only for families eligible for Free School Meals. This is Government policy. If this has created additional hardship, please contact us and we will try to support you. If you believe you may be eligible for FSM, please see below:

Principal – Mr Nigel Fowler

Associate Principal – Mrs Lauren Norris

Grasmere Road, Oldham, OL4 1NG

Tel: 0161 213 1235 <https://www.oasisacademyclarksfield.org/>



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Eligibility for Free School Meals

We are able to register new families for the new scheme should you be eligible for Free School Meals, and will do our best to support you through this process.

Your family must be receiving any of the following:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

If you think you are eligible, you can self-register via: <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals> or send photographic evidence to the academy via email - we will then be able to advise whether we can register you for vouchers.

Building Work

Our building contractor has continued to work on the redevelopment of the building whilst we have been closed. They have completed rigorous risk assessments before making this decision. They have been making rapid progress in KS1 and have been making new classrooms for us. Photographs of the progress are added on our website and on social media on an ongoing basis – please have a look!

Please keep safe and look after each other. We are looking forward to seeing you back at school, whenever that may be.

Kindest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N Fowler'.

N Fowler

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