

**Oxfordshire County Council
New Road
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**Ansaf Azhar
Director of Public Health**

15 June 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Firstly, I want to thank you for adhering to the government stay at home guidance, which has been a key factor in allowing schools in Oxfordshire to open to a wider group of children.

I am writing to remind you of the important role **you** play in helping schools to remain open. It is vitally important that you and your family continue to follow government guidelines on social distancing as this enables the measures that the school has put in place to be as effective as possible in addressing the challenges presented by coronavirus.

We can all help to control coronavirus if we all stay alert, this means:

- stay at home as much as possible
- limit contact with other people
- keep your distance if you go out (2 metres apart where possible)
- wash your hands regularly

Unfortunately, despite recent relaxation of social distancing measures, this still means that some traditional child activities, such as sleepovers should be avoided. I acknowledge that this is really hard for children but is an important part of your role in reducing transmission.

It is also important that people should avoid sharing a private vehicle with members of another household as you will not be able to keep strict social distancing guidelines. Please consider walking, cycling or using your own vehicle if you can.

If you have to travel with people outside your household group, try to share the transport with the same people each time and keep to small groups of people at any one time.

You should

- Consider seating arrangements to optimise distance between people in the vehicle.
- Be aware of the surfaces that you or others touch.
- Consider good ventilation (keeping the car windows open) and facing away from each other or wearing face coverings may help to reduce the risk of transmission.
- You should clean the vehicle between journeys using gloves and standard cleaning products. Make sure you clean door handles, steering wheel and other areas that people may touch.

More information is available on the GOV.UK website, search for 'Social Distancing' and 'Safer Travel guidance for passengers'.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ansaf Azhar', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Ansaf Azhar
Corporate Director of Public Health

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