

8th September 2020

Press Release

Temporary closure of Olive Tree Primary School

As-salaam'alaykum wa rahmatullaahii wa barakatuhu,

Under the new management team (September 2018), the school has made significant headway. This includes meeting all the Independent School Standards, as a result, removing the inherited admissions restriction placed by the DfE. Additionally, we have significantly improved our relationship with all regulatory bodies and enhanced the overall image of the school.

The new management team never planned for short term success or anticipated it would be straightforward to achieve our goals. We were however rather prepared to work hard and lay the foundations for long term success. Our position has not changed, we believe in establishing exceptional Islamic schooling.

It is with great sadness that we announce that Olive Tree Primary School will be temporarily closed until further notice. This decision has not been taken lightly by the management team having considered many options and ways in which we could remain open.

The ongoing pandemic has severely impacted our financial ability to deliver an education provision in accordance with the intended quality and aspirations of the school's management team.

Despite our best efforts through our admissions process and having considered alternative funding routes, our current student enrolment and the inability to execute our planned fundraising activities, does not permit the financial viability of the school.

During the period of closure we intend to solidify the future of the school by embedding a commercial model to work towards the school being self-sustainable, relocate to a facility that meets our educational objectives as well as our student growth plans and finally continue to build an education provision that is based on achieving education excellence.

Under the stewardship of the new management team, we have been overwhelmed by the support and generosity of the community in fundraising and supporting our events. Rest assured that we have and will continue to invest in establishing an education institute our community can be proud of.

Finally, OTPS is historically known to be a resilient school in the face of challenges. While the trust and governing board continue to review the opening of the school, we also rely on the prayers and support of our community to get through this turbulent time the school faces.

If you would like to get involved in our school or have any queries, please contact: 01582 416940

**Board of trustees & Board of governors
Olive Tree Primary School
08.09.2020**