



**Welcome to Oasis Academy
Don Valley's Early Years
Reception Classes**



We are pleased to welcome you and your child into their Reception class here at Oasis Academy Don Valley (OADV). This is your child's first step into school life and by working together, we can make it a happy one.

For the first time since the COVID pandemic has happened we are able to go back to our old ways of transitioning children into our Reception Classes. This means that you and your child are able to come and see the classroom before September during our jump up days and meet some of the EYFS Team here at OADV. Not only this but there will be home visits in September, which we will inform you of during your jump up days, and your class teacher and other adult (teaching assistant) will come to your home.

However, in the meantime we are hoping this first welcome booklet will tell you more about our OADV family, our reception teachers, classrooms, and information on how you can help at home in preparation for full time school.



Here are some of our fantastic OADV family; our Academy Principal, Mr Pape and our Head of Primary Mrs Michels, as well as our EYFS Phase Lead, Miss De Sousa. We are all looking forward to meeting you.



I am Mr Pape and I am the Principal here at Oasis Academy Don Valley and have been here since the Academy opened in 2015. I look forward to welcoming you in joining our Academy community in September 2022.



I am Mrs Michels and I am the Head of Primary. I am here to ensure you all receive the best possible education, making sure you enjoy your learning whilst learning many new things!

Our EYFS Phase Leader is:



Hello Everyone! My name is Miss De Sousa, and I am the teacher in Class Donaldson. I have been a teacher at Oasis Academy Don Valley since 2018 and I am also the EYFS Phase Lead. I absolutely love learning, and I can't wait to help your children through their first year of formal education – we always have a blast! I have a twitter account, if you can, follow me on it below:

[@MissDeSousa9](https://twitter.com/MissDeSousa9)



We will let you know nearer the time which class your child will be joining in September and who their teacher will be. Our Reception classes work very closely together so you will get to know both of our teachers very well.

Our Reception classrooms:



We have a lot of fun in Reception. When we are in our class, we have a lot of time to explore both inside and outside. We also have special visitors, including police officers and authors. We visit the local library, go to the supermarkets, visit castles and farms.

Preparing for Reception:

1. Talk with your child about school and all the exciting things they will learn, be positive.
2. Teach your child to get dressed on his/her own and to use the toilet without needing help. (Dresses, undresses and manages own personal hygiene is part

- of the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum)
3. Teach him/her to use a knife and fork.
 4. Help your child to recognise their name and encourage your child to write his/her name. Only use capitals in their natural place – e.g. Yusuf, not YUSUF.
 5. Encourage his/her first attempts at writing.
 6. Encourage a love of books by sharing stories with him/her as often as possible.

Research shows that spending 5-10 minutes each day on a range of the activities below can make a great difference to your child's progress:

- Reading with and to children.
- Playing with letters and numbers.
- Teaching songs and nursery rhymes.
- Drawing
- Talking with children about the World they live in and events.

Next steps:

As the letter states we will be in touch throughout summer term with more information about starting school - admission forms, uniform and lots of other key information. However, for now get to know us further by watching the tour of our EYFS on the link below:

www.oasisacademydonvalley.org



If you have any other questions, please get in touch via email info@donvalley.org and follow us on Twitter [@oasisdonvalley](https://twitter.com/oasisdonvalley) for more updates and information.

