Monday 22nd June 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are pleased to share the outcome of our recent Ofsted inspection, which took place in May.

One of the most positive outcomes is inspectors' recognition of the clear progress being made, with the improvements already in place starting to make a real difference for our pupils.

What is working well

As well as recognising the progress being made, inspectors also identified a number of other important strengths across the academy:

- **A strong start for our youngest children**
  Early years provision was identified as '*led well and a strength*', with inspectors noting the high-quality support they receive from our staff.
- **Positive improvements in behaviour and school culture**
  Inspectors recognised that behaviour is improving, commenting that *"many pupils behave well and display positive attitudes to their learning"* and noting the reduction in suspensions.
- **A rich and inclusive wider curriculum**
  Pupils benefit from a broad personal development offer, including cultural events, clubs and leadership opportunities, which inspectors noted pupils enjoy and engage with regularly.
- **Strong leadership and clear direction**
  Leaders, supported by the trust, were praised for having *"a very secure understanding of the school"* and for acting to improve standards, including investing in additional support.
- **A caring and inclusive community**
  The report highlights that pupils respect each other's different backgrounds and that the school is developing a strong sense of belonging for its community.

Areas for further development

As always, we want to be open and honest with you. The report identifies some areas where further work is needed to ensure all pupils achieve as highly as they should.

These include:

- Making sure teaching is consistently strong across all subjects and year groups
- Continuing to improve attendance, particularly for older pupils
- Strengthening achievement over time, especially for our secondary students
- Ensuring support for pupils with additional needs is consistently applied in lessons

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It is important to note that inspectors also recognised that leaders are clear about these priorities and are already taking action to address them.

Our next steps

We are already building on the progress recognised in the report. Our focus is on:

- Embedding high-quality teaching in every classroom
- Strengthening support for pupils to attend school regularly
- Continuing to invest in staff development and leadership capacity
- Ensuring all pupils, including those with additional needs, receive the support required to help them succeed

Our focus now is on continuing this positive momentum, so that every child can benefit from the best possible education.

Working in partnership with you

Thank you for your continued support. The report highlights the improvements we are making together, and we know that strong partnerships with families are key to our future success.

If you would like to read the full report, please click the link here.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss anything covered in the report, please do get in touch.

Yours sincerely,

Nichola Smith

Executive Principal

Oasis Academy Don Valley

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