

29th May 2020

Dear parents and carers,

Oasis Academy Don Valley – Opening Postponed

As you will know from my previous letters, we have been preparing to re-open the Academy for children in early years, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 from next week (1st June) if we met all safety conditions, and the Government and the Director of Public Health in Sheffield confirmed it was safe to do so.

While I can confirm that we have met all the Government safety conditions, we have just received the attached update from the Director of Public Health in Sheffield advising us not to open schools further at this time. As you will see, their concern is to do with the fact that the Test and Trace system is not up and running yet and that this situation makes it unsafe to open schools in Sheffield.

We are therefore writing to advise you that we are unable to open Oasis Academy Don Valley on Monday 1st June as we had hoped to do so.

What does this mean for my child?

If your child is in nursery, Reception, Year 1 or Year 6 and was due to return to the Academy next week this will no longer be possible. The Academy will remain closed to these children. Please continue to support your child with their remote learning.

As confirmed by Public Health Sheffield, this decision does not impact on our provision for key workers and vulnerable children and we will remain open to those children who are eligible next week.

What will happen next?

We intend to pursue conversations with Sheffield Council about the Test and Trace system – and how this relates to the local ‘R’ factor. As soon as we understand the situation more fully, we will be back in touch about when we expect to open.

We are really sorry about this situation. As you know, we were very much looking forward to welcoming children back to the academy on Monday. Thank you for your patience as we all continue to strive to provide for the children in the safest way possible. Our first priority is the health and safety of all children and staff, unfortunately it appears it is not yet safe to do so for more children just yet.

As promised, I will of course keep you updated as soon as we hear more from the Director of Public Health in Sheffield and about when we might be able to open further.

We look forward to being able to welcome you back to the Academy very soon.

Yours sincerely,



Mr J Pape
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