

1 September 2020



Dear parents and carers,

Arrangements for the return to school

I hope you and your family have had a peaceful summer despite all the restrictions.

I am writing to you to further update you on our plans for the safe reopening of the Academy for all children. We are looking forward to welcoming them back, and also to being able to come back together again as a whole school. Some of this guidance may be familiar from my previous letters but, because things have continued to change over the last week, we have continued to work on the issue of safety and there are therefore some significant changes that I would like to make you aware of.

As you will know, the Government expects all pupils, in all year groups, to return to school full-time from the beginning of September. You can read this by searching for 'Guidance for full opening: schools.'

The Government have set out the actions our academy must take to minimise the risk of transmission of coronavirus, and have guided us to consider how this will impact on school operations, curriculum and behaviour, assessment and accountability, and the plans we have in place to continue education should there be a local outbreak.

Our response is to do everything that we can to maximise safety for our pupils, families and staff. I will summarise the arrangements in this letter, attach more detail in the accompanying document, and finally provide a shortened copy of the Government's latest advice to parents for your reference.

Summary

1. As part of Oasis Community Learning, we have completed an in-depth risk assessment which has been reviewed by the Oasis' national leadership and by the academy's health and safety committee. The risk assessment will be updated on a weekly basis by the academy, reported to Oasis and the local committee will continue to meet weekly until further notice.
2. In order to reduce the risk of transmission across the whole academy and each group of children, we have thought carefully about how we use the space in our Academy. We are repurposing some of the Academy to maximise the space both between pupils, and between pupils and staff.

This is in addition to how we will group our young people which we wrote to you about at the end of term. Pupils from each Year Group will be taught in one part of the school and have break and lunchtimes together. This will reduce the number of contacts each pupils has with other year groups, and reduce the chance of spreading infection.

Principal: Mr J Pape

Oasis Academy Don Valley
Leeds Road
Sheffield
S9 3TY

Email: info@oasisdonvalley.org
Tel: 0114 220 0400

www.oasisacademydonvalley.org



3. Hygiene remains an essential part of a safe return. Pupils and staff will be required to wash their hands thoroughly upon arrival at school, before and after eating, and after break times. Pupils will have access to a sink for handwashing. We will also have hand sanitiser dispensers at all receptions, all entrances and exits, dining rooms, halls and first aid rooms.

Everyone will be reminded of the importance of 'Catch it, Bin it, Kill it' approach, and we will have enough tissues and bins available throughout the school to follow this routine. Hygiene will be everyone's responsibility, including all pupils, to ensure we make the Academy as safe as we possibly can.

The Academy will be cleaned every day as normal, and we will be wiping down surfaces and equipment more frequently to reduce transmission of the virus.

4. The Government does not recommend that face masks are used by primary-aged children within school, but has mandated the use of face coverings for secondary students as they move around their school, and left it up to the discretion of schools about further use.

Again, this is a matter that Oasis has given a lot of thought to. Oasis believes that health and safety is **not** a discretionary matter. It is not permitted for primary students (children 11 or under) to wear face coverings but we will be requiring all staff to wear visors when they are teaching and face coverings when social distancing is not possible.

5. Face Coverings and Visors

Pupils are not permitted to wear masks inside classrooms, as the latest advice from government is that social distancing and increased hygiene regimes within school is sufficient. However, staff will be required to wear visors when teaching. They will be required to also wear a face mask when social distancing is not possible i.e. when they are supporting an individual student.

During pick and up and drop-off, when there are lots of parents and children in a small space, please would you wear a face covering. This is for everyone's protection.

Questions and feedback

Please take the time to read the included arrangements document where we explain in more detail how school will work. If you have any questions or concerns that are not addressed in these documents, please contact us at 0114 2200400.

Principal: Mr J Pape

Oasis Academy Don Valley
Leeds Road
Sheffield
S9 3TY

Email: info@oasisdonvalley.org

Tel: 0114 220 0400

www.oasisacademydonvalley.org



I wanted you to have the full information on the preparations we are completing to make the Academy safe and welcoming for everyone. I recognise that for some of our pupils this will be the first time back in school after many months and the arrangements will be unfamiliar. We will take the time to ensure they understand the changes as soon as they return and will provide additional support for those who are apprehensive.

Year group	Arrival time	End time	Enter via
Year 1	8:30	2:45	Main Primary Entrance
Year 2	9:00	3:15	Main Primary Entrance
Year 3	8:45	3:00	Main Primary Entrance
Year 4	9:15	3:30	Main Primary Entrance
Year 5	8:15	2:30	Main Primary Entrance
Year 6	8:15	2:30	Main Primary Entrance

Please remember if you have children in more than one year group you should drop off with your earliest child and collect at the end of the day with your latest child.

Thank you for your continued support as we make these arrangements.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Pape".

Mr J Pape
Oasis Academy Don Valley

Principal: Mr J Pape

Oasis Academy Don Valley
Leeds Road
Sheffield
S9 3TY

Email: info@oasisdonvalley.org
Tel: 0114 220 0400

www.oasisacademydonvalley.org