



Oasis Academy Don Valley EYFS Parent Handbook 2023-2024



“Children make very strong progress so that by the end of the Reception Year the proportion of children reaching and exceeding a good level of development is above the national average. The children are very well prepared for their transition into Year 1”

Inspection report: Oasis Academy Don Valley, 12–14 June 2018

Welcome to the next stage of our reception transition process.

This is your EYFS Parent Handbook. Within this booklet, you will find out about the following:

- ❖ The structure of the Academy
- ❖ Our Academy expectations, policies and procedures
- ❖ Information about the structure of the EYFS curriculum

Our EYFS

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) at Oasis Academy Don Valley is made up of a nursery (2-4 year olds), one morning and one afternoon session with children attending one session per day and two foundation stage two classes (reception year, 4-5 year olds). Our two reception classes are called Class Ahlberg and Class Donaldson, where we can have 30 children in each class.

Admission to Reception

Children enter the Reception class during the autumn term of the academic year in which they become five.

The EYFS is based upon four principles

- ❖ **Every child is a unique child**, who is constantly learning and can be resilient, capable, confident and self-assured.
- ❖ **Children learn to be strong and independent** through positive relationships.
- ❖ **Children learn and develop well** in enabling environments, in which their experiences respond to their individual needs and there is a strong partnership between practitioners and parents and/or carers.
- ❖ **Children develop and learn in different ways and at different rates**. The EYFS framework covers the education and care of all children in early years provision, including children with special educational needs and disabilities.

EYFS Curriculum

Children in reception are working from Early Year's Foundation Stage framework & Development Matters 2021. The Early Years Foundation Stage Framework (EYFS) sets out the learning and development stages for children as they grow from birth to five years. This has three prime areas and four specific areas of learning.

The prime areas are personal, social and emotional development, communication and language and physical development. The prime areas are fundamental, work together, run through, and support learning in other areas.

The specific areas include the essential skills and knowledge for children to participate successfully in society. These are literacy, mathematics, understanding of the world, and expressive art and design.

Areas of Learning and Development	
Prime areas	
Communication and Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Listening, attention and understanding- Speaking
Personal, Social and Emotional Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Self-regulation- Managing Self- Building relationships
Physical Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Gross Motor Skills- Fine Motor Skills.
Specific Areas	
Literacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Comprehension- Word Reading- Writing
Mathematics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Number- Numerical Pattern
Understanding the World	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Past and present- People, culture and communities- The Natural World
Expressive Art and Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Creating with materials- Being imaginative and expressive



We build warm and caring relationships, encourage children's creativity and develop their independence. We have high expectations and believe in providing

children with first hand experiences, which empower them to be actively involved in their own learning. We provide opportunities, which allow our children to learn in a variety of ways, both indoors and outdoors, covering all areas of the Early Years framework. Learning takes place through structured lessons, adult led group learning, independent opportunities and access to child led continuous provision. To find out more, look at the following document online:

<https://www.foundationyears.org.uk>



In planning and guiding children's activities, Early Years Team use the different ways that children learn and reflect these in their practice. Three characteristics of effective teaching and learning are:

- ❖ **Playing and exploring** - children investigate and experience things, and 'have a go'
- ❖ **Active learning** - children concentrate and keep on trying if they encounter difficulties, and enjoy achievements
- ❖ **Creating and thinking critically** - children have and develop their own ideas, make links between ideas, and develop strategies for doing things

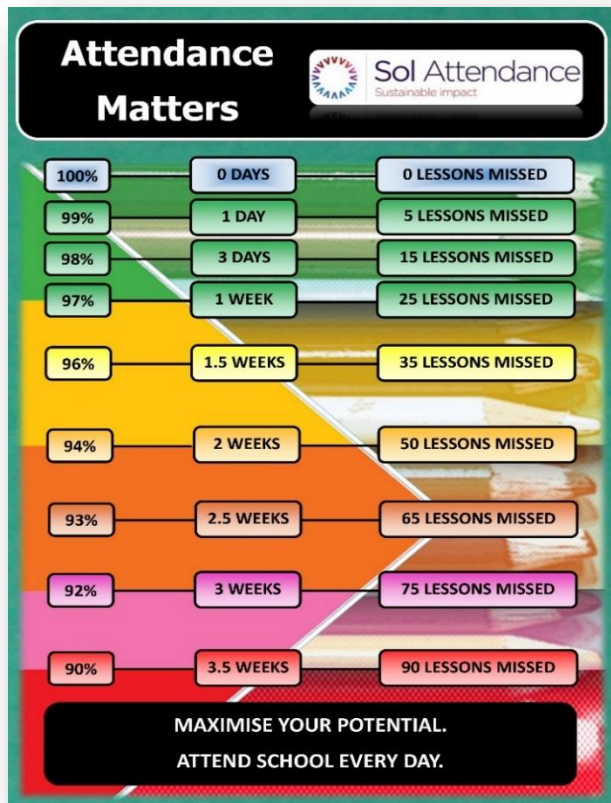
The Beginning and the End of the Day

The start of the day is important for settling the children happily. Please ensure that you arrive on time every day! The gate to let the children onto the premises opens at **8:20am** and the Class Teacher will be in the classroom to greet you and your child as they open the door for your child at **8:30am.**

At the end of the day, **3.00pm**, it is very important that you collect your child on time. It can be very unsettling for a small child to be left waiting when all the others have gone home. Of course, we will always look after children if you are delayed, but if

possible please telephone the Academy so we can explain and help with any worries.

For your child to make the very best progress attendance is vital therefore, we aim high!



If your child is unable to come to school, please telephone us on 0114 2200 400 on the first day of absence (by 9.00 am) to let us know. Mrs Bellamy is our attendance and welfare officer and she will be in touch with you regarding attendance if required.

P.E

Your child will need shorts/leggings a tee shirt and pumps/trainers to wear for P.E. they also need a bag to keep them in. **Please** make sure **all** of your child's clothing is clearly **named** – it really helps your child to look after their belongings.



Earrings

Please do not send your child to the Academy with hooped earrings for health and safety reasons. Small stud earrings are acceptable, however on PE days these must be taken out by parents beforehand.

Academy Uniform

At Oasis Academy Don Valley, we ask that children wear our uniform as we feel it is practical, manageable and good value. It is suitable for all the activities the children participate in during the Academy day.

Academy uniform is now available to order online from our suppliers Pinders School wear, see our website for details. If the size you require is in stock you may purchase it straight away, otherwise you will need to place an order; these can take up to 3 weeks to be delivered.

Please remember to write your child's name in their jumper or your Class Teacher will do so. As you can appreciate we have 30 identical jumpers/cardigans.

Children need to wear safe, comfortable shoes these should be black **(not open toes, sling backs or trainers).**

We will provide your child with a book bag as they enter Reception.



Lunch at School

Pupils in Reception, year 1 and year 2 in state funded schools are currently eligible for school meals funded by the government. We operate Family Dining in our Academy, which means that all children are expected to eat a hot meal. All meals are currently vegetarian. The Academy **does not allow** children to bring packed lunches.

However, please consider whether you are eligible to complete the Free School Meals application form in your pack, speak to a member of our Admin team if you need any help or guidance with this as they can make this claim on your behalf.



Drinks

We would encourage all children to bring their own (non-breakable) named water bottle and water is freely available in the classroom. Milk is free for children under 5 years old and for those who are entitled to a Free School Meal. When children turn 5, milk can be ordered on a half termly basis, you will receive a letter regarding this. The children drink their milk throughout the day.

Fruit

Children do not need to bring a snack each day as the government for all infant age children on a daily basis provides a piece of fruit. The children eat their fruit when a natural break occurs.



Settling into School Routines

Once the children have entered Reception, they will begin integration into the main Academy routines. Our Reception children are very much part of the whole Academy community, taking part in all events, assemblies, rewards and celebrations. We support all of our children to be the best version of themselves whilst in our EYFS, providing them with opportunities and experiences that excite and inspire them, building the fundamentals for their educational journey.

Key Staff

Principal
Head of Primary/Deputy Principal
Deputy Primary Principal
Assistant Principals
Safeguarding and Inclusion lead
EYFS Leader/Reception teacher
Reception teacher
Pastoral Managers
Attendance & Welfare Officer

Role

Mr J Pape
Mrs C Michels
Mr R Barr
Mr M Murray
Mr H Pickard
Miss C Croker
Ms E DeSousa
Ms A Rushbrook
Ms N Dunk
Ms K Burns
Mrs E Bellamy

Reception Class Times

Gates open at	8:20am
Lessons begin at	8:30am
Lesson finish at	3:00pm

Tel: 0114 2200 400

E: eyfs@oasisdonvalley.org

W: www.oasisdonvalleyacademy.org

T: [@oasisdonvalley](https://twitter.com/oasisdonvalley)



For further information please see the EYFS Policy that can be found in the EYFS transition tab and Policies section of our website.