

1st September 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope you and your family have had a safe and enjoyable summer.

I am writing to introduce myself and update you on our Covid-19 arrangements as we return to school. On Monday 6th of September I will be welcoming your child as their new Principal. I am really proud to have been appointed as Principal of Oasis Academy Oldham and I am looking forward to working with you in order to provide the very best education for your son or daughter. I have been a teacher for 26 years many of which were in Oldham and I have previously been the Principal at Oasis Academy MediaCityUK which was graded good by Ofsted at our last inspection. Oasis Academy Oldham is a fantastic academy full of great students and staff and I am looking forward to bringing the experiences I have gained throughout my career with me to continue the improvements made by Ms Gobbi.

My main priority is to ensure that your child is safe and secure in the academy so that they can thrive and achieve fully. In planning for the new term we have followed the government guidance very closely. [You can read the guidance](#) here or by searching 'gov.uk/ What parents and carers need to know.'

In September, what precautions will be the same?

COVID-19 symptoms and positive tests

- Do not send your child to school if they are showing one or more Covid-19 symptoms (high temperature, a new continuous cough, or a loss or change to sense of smell or taste) or they have had a positive test result.
- Pupils with symptoms must stay at home and arrange to have a [PCR test](#). Should the result be positive they will have to self-isolate. Should they receive a negative result, they can return to school.
- If a pupil shows symptoms at school, parents will need to collect them and request a test.

Hand Hygiene

Pupils and staff will continue to wash their hands thoroughly and often.

'Catch it, bin it, kill it'

We will continue to follow good hygiene around sneezing, using and then disposing tissues safely.

Cleaning

We will continue to have a thorough cleaning schedule with regular cleaning equipment and a focus on frequently touched areas.

Ventilation

We will continue to ensure that the school is well ventilated.

Risk assessments

Senior leaders at school will continue to meet regularly to assess the risk at school. If positive cases begin to rise, we will, in consultation with Public Health England and Oasis, follow an Outbreak Plan to determine which precautions it is appropriate to reintroduce to break the chain of transmission.

Asymptomatic testing

Testing will remain an important aspect of reducing the risk of infection spreading within school.

As pupils will potentially mix with lots of other people during the summer holidays, all secondary school pupils will receive 2, on-site lateral flow device (LFD) tests, 3 to 5 days apart, just before or on their return in the autumn term.

For students who have consented to testing in Years 8-11 your first test will take place on Saturday 4th September. You will have received a letter via email over the summer break with more detailed information and I would strongly recommend you read this letter and provide consent. In summary:

- Please complete the consent form and register your child for testing by:-
 1. The quickest and easiest way to consent is by opening your **MyChildAtSchool app**, go to the parental consent section and click the slider to green to grant consent. You can find copies of all of the important information including the full consent form in the Important Documents Section.
 2. If you are unable to access the MCAS app you can complete the **NHS test and trace consent form** sent to you via email on 13th August or on our website and email it to transition.team@oasisoldham.org
 3. Please then click the link here to register your child's attendance on Saturday 4th September https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=zz3XjXy17EC3-HVbUS2fe_SRI5VdIIDsQ-2G4-mzadUMks3TExKNFE5TDBYWEIPSEY1VTk4RzQ1MC4u
- **If you do not consent to testing your child must attend as normal** and follow Academy Health and safety protocols
- If you would like your child to have a test and have not yet given consent, please contact us at transition.team@oasisoldham.org
- In addition, those pupils and staff who consent will continue to take two LFD tests each week at home in the new term until the end of September, when the government will review this.
- Staff and pupils with a positive LFD test result should self-isolate and request a free PCR test to check if they have COVID-19. Whilst awaiting the PCR result, they should continue to self-isolate.
- If the PCR test is taken within 2 days of the positive LFD test, and is negative, it overrides the self-test LFD test and the pupil can return to school, as long as the individual doesn't have COVID-19 symptoms.

In September, what precautions are changing?

Bubbles

The government is no longer recommending that it is necessary to keep children in consistent groups (or bubbles). In light of this we will be carefully considering our best approach to assemblies, how lunch is served, and the use of subject-specific classrooms.

Face coverings

From September the Government have explained that face coverings will no longer be advised for pupils, staff, and visitors either in classrooms or in communal areas.

We know however that staff, visitors, and older pupils may still want to continue to wear a face covering. All students and staff may continue to wear a face covering if they wish – this is a personal choice. Those who chose to wear a face covering must follow the safety guidance around how to put one on and take one off safely.

It is a requirement of the new guidance that we can quickly move back to wearing face coverings should positive cases rise within the academy or in our local community and Public Health England advise us to.

Tracing close contacts and isolation

Schools are no longer responsible for contact tracing. Instead, NHS Test and Trace will contact the family of the pupil with a confirmed case to identify who they have been in close contact with.

Children under the age of 18 are no longer required to self-isolate if they are identified as a close contact of a confirmed case. Instead, you will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace and they will advise for your child to take a PCR Test. They do not have to self-isolate whilst waiting for the test result. Should the result be positive they will have to self-isolate. Should they receive a negative result, they can return to school.

We strongly recommend that if your child is asked to take a PCR test that they do so for everyone's safety.

We are of course pleased that some of the COVID-19 precautions are reducing, however we will only open safely if everyone continues to take the pandemic seriously.

Children must only come to school if they are well, and everyone is responsible for following all precautions that remain in place. As is clear in the guidance, we as a school will be prepared to reintroduce further COVID-19 precautions should it be necessary, and we are advised to by Public Health England.

Other Important Information for September return

Students will return after the summer holidays as follows: -

Friday 3 rd September	Year 7	09:30 – 12:00pm
Monday 6 th September	All Years	Staggered start – see below

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

Thursday 2 nd September		School closed for Staff Training Day
Friday 3 rd September		Staff Training Day Year 7 First Day at the Academy 09:30-12:00pm
Monday 6 th September		School re-opens for all years Staggered start as follows: Year 7 - 08:30am Year 11 – 09:00am Year 8, 9 & 10 - 11:00am All students to enter via front student services entrance
Friday 22 nd October		School closed for Staff Training
Monday 25 th October	Friday 29 th October	School closed for Autumn Half Term
Monday 1 st November		School re-opens for all years
Friday 17 th December		Last Day of Term
Monday 20 th December	Monday 3 rd January	School closed for Christmas Holidays
Tuesday 4 th January 2022		School closed Staff Training Day
Wednesday 5 th January		School re-opens for all years

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TIMES OF THE DAY

The school day 2021-2022		
08:30-08:50	Line-up & morning registration	Student arrival (onsite by 08:25)
08:50-09:50	Period 1	All year groups
09:50-10:50	Period 2	Years 7, 8 & 11
09:50-10:05	Break	Years 9 & 10
10:05-11:05	Period 2	Years 9 & 10
10:50-11:05	Break	Years 7, 8 & 11
11:05-12:05	Period 3	All year groups
12:05-13:05	Period 4	Years 7, 8 & 11
12:05-12:35	Lunch	Years 9 & 10
12:35-13:35	Period 4	Years 9 & 10
13:05-13:35	Lunch	Years 7, 8 & 11
13:35-14:35	Period 5	All year groups

When we return in September your child will be supported daily by their Tutor. In addition, each student will have a Head of Year who will be supported by a Pastoral Leader to ensure your child's needs are met. Our Academy Leadership Team will also be linked to specific Year Groups.

All contact details and email addresses can be found on our website.

	Head of Year Assistant Head of Year Progress Leader	Pastoral Leader	ALT Links
7	Mr M Buxton	Ms H Hinchcliffe	Ms Z Obeng Mrs A Mitchell
8	Mr S Edwards Miss B Dent (Asst)	Mrs C Brown	Mr S Singh Mrs F Overare-Olabisi
9	Mrs C Lowe	Ms A Shearing & Mrs S Sheridan	Mrs T Rice Mr D Keate
10	Miss A Seijo Marks Ms S Neild (Asst) Ms F Hussain (Progress Leader)	Mrs J Steenson	Miss R Hurst Miss G Blackwood
11	Mr N Jolly Ms F Hussain (Progress Leader)	Ms M Hallam & Mr S Patterson	Miss C Higgins Miss R Hurst

Standards and Expectations

I am committed to the increased drive on standards and to see Oasis Academy Oldham become an outstanding academy in the future. For me, standards and high expectations start with excellent attendance, punctuality and the correct uniform being worn, and I welcome your support with the above to ensure the very best experience for our child. All information regarding standards and expectations can be found on our website but please see some reminders below:

School Uniform and Equipment

Our school uniform is now in stock, and our approved uniform supplier is Zutti (based on Yorkshire Street in Oldham town centre, open Monday to Saturday). They can be contacted by phone: 0161 665 1016 or email: shop@zutti.com. Please click on the link to view our uniform on Zutti's website: - <https://www.zuttischools.com/product-category/oasis-oldham/>

Please note on return in September students will be expected to wear full uniform daily, they will not be required to come into the academy in their PE kit. This will be carried in their backpack; they will change into their PE kit as normal before PE lessons.

Mandatory Equipment List

All students are expected to be fully equipped every day with the following items:

- Backpack/rucksack – to fit an A4 sized folder inside
- Pencil case
- Ruler
- Rubber
- Pencil
- 2 x black pens
- 2 x red pens
- Highlighter(s)
- Reading book
- Calculator
- Academy planner (this will be provided in September)
- iPad

I know there is a lot of information to take in and I would like to thank you ahead of the new term for your continued support. If you have any questions, please contact the academy on T: 0161 624 9630 or email: admin.requests@oasisoldham.org

Yours sincerely



Mrs M Dillon
Principal

Principal - Marie Dillon

Hollins Road, Hollinwood, Oldham, OL8 4JZ

T. 0161 624 9630 • F. 0161 785 8765

E. admin.requests@oasisoldham.org • W. www.oasisacademyoldham.org



Creating a
community of
choices & chances



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POSITIVE STEPS
SUPPORT | CHALLENGE | CHANGE