

24th September 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope you all had a good summer break.

As the new academic year has commenced, I am writing to extend a sincere warm welcome back to you all and all the children. It has been a joy to welcome everyone back and to resume a sense of normality.

We are returning to school to so many positives. Over the summer our GCSE students gained the grades needed to secure their post-16 choices, we were delighted to have been able to give a huge warm welcome to our new Year 7 students along with Years 8, 9, 10 & 11. Incredibly we are already in our third week, and we have got off to a good start.

Standards and Expectations

I am committed to the increased drive on standards and to see Oasis Academy Oldham become an "Good" 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. The changes that have been implemented are having a real impact and it is pleasing to see our students responding in such a mature manner.

COVID Update

As you will be aware Government guidance has changed and in line with regulations, we have ensured that we have the highest standards of hygiene, including a heightened focus on cleaning touch points throughout the day.

Thank you to all parents who consented to asymptomatic testing prior to the academy re-opening. I am pleased to report that since re-opening cases of the virus have been low with 5 reported cases since the start of term.

Please see important information below:

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 PCR test.

Ventilation

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

Testing will remain an important aspect of reducing the risk of infection spreading within school, if you have consented to Lateral Flow Testing (LFT) please continue to do so twice weekly.

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.

Changes to any Medical Notes

Please can you ensure that any changes to your child's medical, dietary needs are given to the academy as soon as possible to ensure our data is correct and up to date.

Drop off and Pick up

These are very busy times of the day.

MILLGATE: If you drop off or collect your child by car, you **MUST NOT** drive along Mill Gate. This causes significant congestion and becomes a potential hazard for children wanting to cross safely. Please find an alternative drop off location so that your child can walk the final stretch along Mill gate to the rear gates. Our staff are on duty to welcome and say good-bye each day.

MAIN ENTRANCE OFF HOLLINS ROAD: If you drop or collect by car at this entry point, please drive on to the main car park by turning first left once through the main gates to the academy off Hollins Road. You **MUST NOT** stop on the turning circle as this causes congestion and poses a serious safety risk to students crossing once in our school grounds.

Please can I ask all parents to adhere to these arrangements, which will greatly improve matters at this very busy time of the day.

Open Evening 30th September:

I am pleased to inform you that we will be holding our Open Evening next Thursday, 30th September to all perspective students and parents for the academic year 2022-23. We are having to do things a little bit differently this year due to COVID-19 and to ensure that we are taking the appropriate precautions. With this in mind I will not be holding a Principal's address in the main hall, however there will the opportunity to walk around the academy and visit our fantastic classrooms and facilities. I look forward to welcoming you.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

Thursday 30 th September		Open Evening 4.00-6.15pm
Thursday 7 th October		Year 7 Settling in Evening 4.00-6.15pm
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

I would like to thank you 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

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Creating a
community of
choices & chances



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