



28<sup>th</sup> August

AMi/dm

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope you have had a safe and enjoyable summer despite the continuing COVID19 restrictions and lockdown measures for us here in Oldham. We are looking forward to our return to school after a challenging summer term for everyone in our community. In light of Government health and safety guidelines for schools in England, we can fully open but with some critically important amendments to the usual running and structure our school day. **The regular attendance of every child to school is vital to their future success and wellbeing as we start the new academic year.** Please read the following information carefully so you and your child know what to expect on their return to school and how you can help us to prepare for their safe return.

### **Year 7**

We are delighted to welcome our new, year 7 cohort for their Induction day on **Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September**. This will afford our year 7 students the opportunity to familiarise themselves with their new school, meet peers and the wider year 7 team. We have written to our year 7 families separately with details specific to their induction with us.

### **Years 8 – 11**

Students in years 8, 9, 10 and 11 will return to school on **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September**. The table below provides staggered start and finish times for all year groups, along with year group entry points to the academy to support safety measures. Please note the earlier finish time each Thursday for all students.

### **September term and safety measures at OAO**

The September term will see year groups arranged in 'bubbles' to ensure we are adhering to Government COVID19 guidelines to keep everyone safe in relation to COVID 19. To support you in understanding all of the changes the Academy has made, we have produced a handbook known as the **OAO Bubble Book**. You will receive a link to this via text message prior to your child's first day in school. Please take the time to read or listen to the audio option with your child so you are fully informed of the revised arrangements to our school day and curriculum. It is also vital that you read the guidance and advice on what to do if someone in your household becomes unwell with COVID symptoms.

**The following information is designed to support you in preparing for your child's first day with us.**

### **Oasis Community Learning Trust response to Government guidance – Face coverings**

- In light of recent government guidance regarding face coverings for schools, The Oasis Trust have mandated the wearing of face coverings for all students and staff at key points throughout the school day.

- Oasis Community Learning Trust has arranged for reusable face coverings to be issued to all students on their first day
- This face covering will then become the responsibility of the student and we ask for your support in the regular laundering of this item
- Your child should travel to school in a different, separate face covering particularly if they are using public transport
- On arrival to school students should remove their own face covering from home and store in a plastic zip lock style bag from home within their school bag and sanitize hands
- We will provide hand sanitizer at the point of entry to the academy and throughout the school day
- Students will then wear their mandated academy face covering on entry to the school and when moving around the building throughout the day. The mask should not be worn within the classroom environment

### Access to the academy

Staggered start and end times along with entry points to the academy are a significant feature within our revised school day. This is to ensure students enter the building in their year bubbles and can travel safely to their year zone. Students will be taught in their year zone areas and will not be permitted to move from outside of these spaces. This change has been made to ensure we can safely observe social distancing measures and keep bubbles separate.

Unfortunately early morning access to the academy will not be possible whilst working under COVID19 restrictions meaning Breakfast Club will not be available to students initially and students should avoid arriving to school earlier than their start time as we cannot allow access prior to their year group start time featured in the table below.

Year	Start time & line up	Entry & exit points to school grounds	Finish
7	<b>8.10am</b> LATE after 8.20am	Rear green gates via Mill Gate	2.40pm Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri Thursday finish 1.40pm
8	<b>8.10am</b> LATE after 8.20am	Side gates off footpath at front of school	2.40pm Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri Thursday finish 1.40pm
9	<b>8.10am</b> LATE after 8.20am	Front doors under bridge	2.40pm Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri Thursday finish 1.40pm
10	<b>8.20am</b> LATE After 8.30am	Rear green gates via Mill Gate	2.45pm Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri Thursday finish 1.45pm
11	<b>8.20am</b> LATE After 8.30am	Front doors under bridge	2.45pm Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri Thursday finish 1.45pm

### Uniform & Kit Essentials

Please support your child in being fully prepared for their return to school by:

- Bringing bedtimes and get up times back in line in the days leading up to their first week back in school
- Check you have all elements of our full school uniform, shoes and PE kit  
**Do visit Zutti 81-83 Yorkshire St, Oldham OL1 3ST to purchase any items you may still require, full uniform lists are available in store**
- Check your child has a **washable back pack/rucksack** large enough to fit full PE kit and A 4 books/folders
- Fully stocked pencil case
- Age appropriate reading book

- A suitable face covering for their journey to and from school
- A small plastic zip lock bag for the storing of their home/school journey mask within their school rucksack or backpack

In addition, we ask parents and carers to be extra careful in their usual laundry routines. We recommend that all uniform is freshly laundered daily and ideally, washed at a temperature above 60 degrees. We recognise this may lead to an increased spend on more uniform or clothes washing, but we know that this can help reduce the transmission of the virus. We understand that this will not be feasible for outdoor coats and blazers.

### Changes to lunch & break times

We will not be able to offer break time food or drinks during this period of amended provision, however students can choose to bring a healthy snack and drink to school for their 15 minute break time. Access to year group bathrooms and outside space will be available during these times.

Your child will have one specified 30 minute lunch slot in a specified zone, this will only be with students in their year bubble. A reduced yet varied hot and cold lunch service will be in operation. **We do ask for your support in ensuring snacks are not:**

- X Multi pack or sharing packs
- X Fizzy drinks or energy drinks

**(Such items will be confiscated and not returned. We recommend for you to purchase snacks as part of your weekly shop, also reducing the need for your child to visit shops before school)**  
Please support us in encouraging healthier snack options such as:

- ✓ Fruit or cereal bars
- ✓ Water or cordial drink products

### Cashless catering in line with health & safety COVID measures

From September and until further notice we cannot handle or exchange any cash on site. This means the loading of cash machines in school to pay for lunches will not be available to students. If you pay for your child's lunch then you should download the **My Child at School** app prior to their first day. This app will allow you to credit their account without the need to handle or bring money in to school. Alternatively you can use cash loaders at Asda or McColls on Hollins Road.

Please follow the 'How To' guide below to download the My Child at School (MCAS app) if you haven't already got the app on your smartphone or device.



- The My Child at School parent app is an application enabling the user to view their child or children's school data on their smartphone.
- In summary the app provides:
- Access to real time timetable, calendar and attendance.
- An insight to parents on their child's schoolwork (homework topics etc..)
- Communication facilities to improve contact between parents and schools
- Instant access to published reports and letters
- School announcements etc..
- To enable the activation of your account please contact school on [admin.requests@oasisoldham.org](mailto:admin.requests@oasisoldham.org), your username will then be emailed back to you enabling you to activate your account.

#### Please follow these steps to activate your account:

- 1) Use safari, google chrome or another **web browser** and go to [www.mychildatschool.com](http://www.mychildatschool.com)
  - 2) Click on "**Redeem invitation code**" (just above login)
  - 3) Use school ID: **11667**
  - 4) Username: **xxxxx**
  - 5) Invitation code: WILL FOLLOW IN A SEPARATE EMAIL FOR SECURITY PURPOSES
  - 6) You will then be asked to change your password (it must have a capital letter, a number and an @  
Sign
- A good password would be:  
Pineapple1234@
- 7) Now download the app, and login using the password you've just set
  - 8) If you have more than one child at the school, you can swap between their profiles, by clicking on the 3 lines in the top left of the screen and selecting the red down arrow.

## Free School Meals & New Applications

If your child is entitled to FSM and you have completed an application this will be credited weekly and you do not need to do anything more.

If you think you might be newly entitled to Free School Meals as your circumstances have changed do please apply online at:

[https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/200231/education\\_grants\\_and\\_allowances/161/free\\_school\\_meals](https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/200231/education_grants_and_allowances/161/free_school_meals)

## Revised tutor groups and year bubble zones

Tutor groups have been revised as part of our COVID19 safety planning for years 9-11. These amended groupings will support teaching and learning. Please check the table below so that your child knows whose tutor group they are in on their return.

Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
<b>Bubble Zone: English</b>	<b>Bubble Zone: Maths</b>	<b>Bubble Zone: Art &amp; IT</b>	<b>Bubble Zone: Science</b>
8AMB Mr Bowen	9CJW Mr Williams	10AT Mrs Taylor	11CFJ Mrs Fujikawa
8CGU Miss Gunner	9CM Miss Marsh	10DL Ms Le Rendu	11MH Miss Hardcastle
8DN Mr Nelson	9EOR Mrs Ormston	10FB Mrs Bright	11ATA Ms Tarry
8HMA Ms Mathias	9HMI Miss Millington	10JBA Mr Barraclough	11LH Miss Hadfield
8HBE Miss Betts	9KOE Mr Osemwegie	10JBE Mr Best	11LL Mrs Lawman
8HH Miss Hardy	9NB Mr Bhatti	10KAS Mrs Sen	11SSW Mr Swift
8JNB Miss Beattie	9OB Mr Ball	10MG Mr Guga	11RGL Mr Gleig
8JSW Dr Swann	9RMU Mrs Mustafa	10RSM Ms Smith	11NA Mrs Amis
8LDO Miss Donlon	9SMO Mrs Liddle-Moore	10SA Ms Anderson	11EC Miss Cook
8PK Miss Keating	9WLE Mr Lee	10PH Miss Hough	11RM Miss MacAdams
8RBL Mrs Blackband	9SB Ms Broome	10TJI Mr Islam	11RIS Mr Snape

## Monday 7<sup>th</sup> – Friday 11<sup>th</sup> September OAO Establishment Week

At Oasis Academy Oldham each year we recognise that the summer holiday breaks student habits and that we need to support students in re-establishing their routines, and learning habits. We also offer this support following the shorter breaks within the year for the same reason.

This year's return to school is even more unique, in that the coronavirus pandemic has meant that students have been out of a normal learning environment for over five months. Though we adapted well to learning online, virtual learning is not the same as learning face to face with your peers and teacher in one place. In response to this unprecedented situation we have made the decision to extend our normal Establishment Days, to cover a minimum of the first full week of school in September. This will allow us to ensure every student can ease back into the routines and habits they need to be successful. It also means that students can be taught the crucial changes to how school will operate under the Department for Education guidance for re-opening and our new health and safety measures to minimise the chances of spreading the virus.

**All students during the week commencing Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September will participate in our establishment sessions. Examples of the lessons that will take place will include:**

1. OAO Safety Habits – Sessions on the expectations of social distancing and learning habits within COVID guidelines
2. Online Learning – Sessions on how we will blend home learning and in class learning to address the lost learning time during lockdown; as well as what students will do if they have to work from home again in another lockdown scenario
3. Oasis 9 Habits – Sessions on how our values and characteristics can help keep us on track in school and through this continuing challenging time
4. Oasis 5Ps – Sessions on our behavioural norms and how they can help us maintain everyone's safety in the months to come and beyond.
5. Pastoral Time - Sessions with your Year Team and Head of Year to plan for the year ahead

Following Establishment Week, we will then begin the academic curriculum. Full detail of year specific amended curriculum content can be found in our Bubble Book.

Should you have any questions about Establishment Week, or like some advice on how you can support your child re-orientate to school life; please contact your year team in the first instance.

Thank you for your continued support in ensuring we have a well-attended and safe return to the new academic year.

Yours Sincerely

Miss D Gobbi  
Principal

Yours sincerely



Miss D Gobbi  
Principal

Principal - Miss D Gobbi

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