

22 July 2020



Dear Parents and Carers,

### Oasis Academy Wintringham reopening for all students in September

Following my recent letter to you about the Government's guidelines for all children to return to school in September, I am writing today to update you on our plans.

As you will be aware, the Government has made it clear that all students, in all year groups, are expected to return to school full-time from the beginning of September. You [can read the guidance here](#)/by searching for 'DfE guidance parents.'

To ensure that all students and staff can return safely, there are a significant number of actions that the Government have asked us to take. We must:

- Minimise the risk of transmission of coronavirus
- Be able to continue teaching and learning in the case of a local outbreak
- Alter how we run the Academy day-to-day to meet the new safety requirements
- Amend our curriculum, behaviour and pastoral support offer in the context of all the new arrangements.

The purpose of this letter is to explain how we intend to meet these expectations. As always, our first priority is the safety and wellbeing of the children, your family and our staff. We will take every precaution, so that we reduce the risk as much as possible and be in a position to finally welcome back all of our students.

The arrangements we are putting in place are lengthy to explain. For ease of reference I have attached them to this letter but provided a brief summary of them below together with the details that specifically relate to your child. I have also attached a shortened copy of the Government's latest advice to parents for your reference.

### Summary of arrangements

1. With the support of Oasis Community Learning, we have completed an in-depth risk assessment which has been reviewed by the academy's local health and safety committee. This committee will continue to meet weekly until further notice.
2. In order to reduce the risk of transmission across the whole academy each class /group will be part of a 'year group bubble' that will stay together throughout each day, they will have break and lunchtimes together. This will reduce the number of contacts each student has with other year groups and reduce the chance of spreading infection.
3. Hygiene is an essential part of a safe return, and students and staff will be required to wash their hands/sanitise their hands thoroughly upon arrival at school, before and after eating, and after break times. Hygiene will be everyone's responsibility, including all students, to ensure we make the Academy as safe as we possibly can.

**Believe, Achieve, Succeed**

@OAWintringham #proudtobeOAW  
 OasisWintringham

Principal: Ms. H. Stennett

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

### Questions and feedback

We completely understand that you will need to feel confident about the arrangements. Please take the time to read the accompanying arrangements document where we explain in more detail how school will work in this 'new normal' environment. If you have any questions or concerns that are not addressed in these documents, please contact us at 01472 871811.

We will also be providing a short video for each year group during the holiday showing the arrangements we have made in the Academy and these will be shared via the website and on our normal social media channels.

### What do I need to know for September?

Due to the changes that we have had to make to ensure the safety of everyone, it is important that we ensure that all students are inducted back into the building and into the new routines. Therefore, we have had to make some changes to our start of term to ensure the best possible start for everyone.

### Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September & Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September

**Are now staff training days.** *This is a slight change to the previously published term dates as we have had to move one of our training days from January to give the staff more time to prepare for the big changes that we have had to put in place. Therefore, the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> September are now training days and the 5<sup>th</sup> January is a normal school day for children (please check our website for more details).*

### Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September

**Only Year 7 & 11 students will be in to enable us to give Year 7 a 'mini' transition.**

Year group	Arrival time between	School starts	End time
Year 7	8.20-8.25	8.25	14.50
Year 11	8.55-9.00	9.00	15.10

### Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September

Year group	Arrival time between	School starts	End time
Year 7	8.20-8.25	8.25	14.50
Year 8	8.55-9.00	9.00	15.00
Year 9	8.20-8.25	8.25	14.50
Year 10	9.25-9.30	9.30	15.00
Year 11	8.40-8.45	8.45	15.10

## Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September

From **Monday 7th September**, please see below the timetable of the school day with the start and finish times for your child's year group:

New School day

September 2020

Y7		Y8		Y9		Y10		Y11	
ARRIVAL ON SITE	8.20am	ARRIVAL ON SITE	8.30AM	ARRIVAL ON SITE	8.20AM	ARRIVAL ON SITE	8.30AM	ARRIVAL ON SITE	8.40AM
TUTOR	8.25AM	TUTOR	8.35AM	TUTOR	8.25AM	TUTOR	8.35AM	TUTOR	8.45AM
LESSON 1	8.50AM								
BREAK	9.50AM	LESSON 2	9.50AM	BREAK	9.50AM	BREAK	9.50AM	LESSON 2	9.50AM
LESSON 2	10.05AM	BREAK	10.50AM	LESSON 2	10.05AM	LESSON 2	10.05AM	BREAK	10.50AM
LESSON 3	11.05AM								
LUNCH	12.05PM	LESSON 4	12.05PM	LUNCH	12.05PM	LUNCH	12.05PM	LESSON 4	12.05PM
LESSON 4	12.50PM	LUNCH	1.05PM	LESSON 4	12.50PM	LESSON 4	12.50PM	LUNCH	1.05PM
LESSON 5	1.50PM								
END	2.50PM	TUTOR	2.50PM	END	2.50PM	TUTOR	2.50PM	TUTOR	2.50PM
		END	3.00PM			END	3.00PM	END	3.10PM

We will have three entrances and exits to the school site. Staff will be on duty to direct the students to these. These will be:

- *Weelsby Avenue*: The old Wintringham school gates will be open so that there is more room for students to walk onto the site. The students will walk passed the old pedestrian entrance and passed the vehicle entrance and the gate is just on the right.
- *Park House gates*: These will now be reopened and students are encouraged to use these if they are coming from the side of town near People's Park.
- *Cemetery gate*: This will remain open for those students coming from the Nunsthorpe estate.

### What do I need to do now?

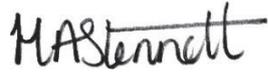
There is a lot of information here, but I wanted you to have the full details of what we are doing to make the Academy safe and welcoming for our students. While it will be a little different to normal we will of course take the time to ensure all of our students understand the changes when we welcome them back, and will provide additional support for any of our young people who are apprehensive having been out of school for such a long time.

Having considered the information in this letter and the FAQs, please let us know if you have any further questions by *emailing* [oaw.admin@oasiswintringham.org](mailto:oaw.admin@oasiswintringham.org)

If you don't have any further questions, we look forward to seeing your child in the new academic year.

Thank you as ever for your patience and understanding during this time, and the support you are providing to your child. We cannot wait to welcome them back in September so that they safely and happily can get back to their studies.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "H Stennett". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke extending from the end of the name.

Ms H Stennett  
Principal, Oasis Academy Wintringham

## More Details about our arrangements

### 1) Attendance

The Government's guidance is clear that students are expected to attend school from September following the DfE statutory guidance.

This means that parents have a duty to ensure that their child regularly attends school, and that schools have a responsibility to record attendance and follow up absence.

### 2) Social distancing and bubbles

In addition to the information in my letter, all students will be expected to remain with their bubble in their designated part of the Academy. There will be 2m distance tapes in place around the Academy so that students can be reminded of the need for distancing wherever possible. There will also be notices reminding students about the need for good respiratory hygiene (catch it/bin it/kill it) and we will ensure ventilation wherever possible.

### 3) Amended start and end times dependent on year group

We are implementing a staggered start and students will line up outside and be collected by their form tutor. It is important students arrive in their allotted time slot so as not to make contact with students outside of their bubble.

From Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September these times are:

<b>Year group</b>	<b>Arrival time between</b>	<b>School starts</b>	<b>End time</b>
Year 7	8.20-8.25	8.25	14.50
Year 8	8.30-8.35	8.35	15.00
Year 9	8.20-8.25	8.25	14.50
Year 10	8.30-8.35	8.35	15.00
Year 11	8.40-8.45	8.45	15.10

### 4) Hygiene and cleaning

We will ensure that everyone understands that good hygiene is everyone's responsibility and that everyone is responsible for everyone else's health.

We will maintain intensified cleaning routines with a focus on regularly wiping down door handles and hard surfaces. As per normal, the Academy will be cleaned every day and there will be disinfectant sprays and paper for cleaning purposes in each classroom.

### 5) Risk Assessments

The risk assessment described overleaf has been developed through risk assessment following guidance from the Government and detailed guidelines from the Oasis Community Learning.

The risk assessment will be signed off by the Oasis national leadership team along with myself as Principal and will remain under constant review as we monitor our progress and as the country's situation changes.

## **6) Getting to and from school**

The Government continues to advise that students should try to avoid public transport especially at peak times and, where possible, travel to and from the Academy by walking or cycling. We have staggered arrival times with this in mind – see point 3. We know that this will not always be possible, so please let us know any concerns around this.

If your child comes to school on a bicycle then they will be directed to their year group cycle shed to store their bike so please ensure that they have their own lock as they will not be allowed to lock up their bicycle with another student's.

## **7) Coming into School - mask procedures**

Public Health England does not recommend the use of face coverings in schools. Please note however that face coverings are required at all times on public transport (for children over the age of 11).

When students arrive at school they will be required to wash their hands immediately. They will then be required to dispose of any temporary face coverings they may have been wearing in a covered bin, or place reusable face coverings in a plastic bag which they can pick up later when leaving to go home, and then wash their hands again before heading to their classroom.

Students who wear face-masks on the way to school must remove them on arrival by using the straps rather than the front of their mask.

We continue to have a stock of PPE within the Academy, including face-masks, disposable gloves, disposable aprons, hand sanitisers and soap, if required.

In light of Government advice, we will no longer be undertaking thermometer testing upon arrival.

## **8) Water bottles and other equipment**

Students are required to bring in their own water bottle for their individual use. These must be labelled and can be re-filled during the day.

It is important that your child has a waterproof coat and bag and a pencil case for their equipment. They will no longer be issued with a locker and will need to keep their equipment on them at all times.

Students should not bring in any unnecessary equipment into school. We will be giving them their own pens and pencils to use while they are at school and these will be dedicated for their personal use.

## **9) No access/no external visitors**

To help us reduce the risk of infection, we will not be able to receive visitors or parents until further notice. During the day, we ask that parents communicate with us only via the telephone on 01472 871811 or email: [oaw.admin@oasiswintringham.org](mailto:oaw.admin@oasiswintringham.org)

## **10) Food and packed lunches**

Each bubble will have an allocated area for lunch. Hot food will be available in this area.

Students may bring in packed lunches, but they must remain in their bags throughout the day, and any rubbish should be taken home each day.

We will be moving to a totally cashless school. We can only accept payments over Parentpay or via Paypoint. Many of you are already doing this but for those of you who haven't yet activated these accounts then a letter will be sent out with more details on.

## **11) Uniform**

All students will return to wearing full uniform. As always, no hoodies or trainers will be permitted however, students will be expected to come in their PE kit on days that they have PE and will wear this all day. Black leggings and tracksuit bottoms are advisable in the winter months as well as a black sweatshirt or fleece as part of their PE kit. They can wear a blazer over their PE kit to keep them warm on a cold day.

## **12) Behaviour**

We will be making some minor amendments to our behaviour policy to reflect our new arrangements. We will publish this on the Academy website's policies page before the beginning of term.

## **13) Suspected symptoms, a confirmed case, and multiple confirmed cases**

We will be following the Government's direct guidance on what to do if there a student or staff member who has suspected coronavirus symptoms or is confirmed to have the virus. We have provided this guidance at the end of Government guidance and frequently asked questions section below:

### **Government guidance and frequently asked questions**

You may have questions about the Government's approach to reopening schools. I have summarised some of the [Government's latest advice](#) which I hope will address some your questions. You can read the Government's full advice by searching '*DfE parents guidance.*'

#### **Is it safe to return?**

The prevalence of coronavirus has decreased since schools restricted their opening to most students, the NHS Test and Trace system is up and running and we understand more about the measures that need to be in place to create safer environments in schools.

The scientific evidence shows that coronavirus (COVID-19) presents a much lower risk to children than adults of becoming severely ill, and there is no evidence that children transmit the disease any more than adults. There will still be risks while coronavirus (COVID-19) remains in the community, and that is why schools will be asked to put in place a range of protective measures.

#### **More on public transport**

As I explained overleaf, where possible, young people are encouraged to avoid public transport, particularly at peak times, and to walk or cycle to school. Where your child relies

on public transport to get to school, and cannot walk or cycle, the [safer travel guidance for passengers](#) will apply. Face coverings are required at all times on public transport (for children over the age of 11).

### **Curriculum**

The Government has set out expectations on what schools are expected to teach when students return in September. Schools will continue to provide an ambitious and broad curriculum in all subjects. There may need to be changes to some subjects - such as PE and other practical subjects - to ensure they can be delivered safely.

### **Assessment and exams**

The Government recognises that young people will have missed a critical period of their learning due to lockdown in the 2019 to 2020 academic year.

For those students going into Year 11 and Year 13 from September, the Government is planning on the basis that GCSEs and A levels will take place in summer 2021.

### **Extra-curricular activities**

The Government advises that

- schools will be permitted to run breakfast and after-school activities. They must be delivered in line with the guidance on protective measures, so things may need to run differently. We will be looking at setting our breakfast club up after the first week when we have looked at how this will be possible with the current restrictions.
- schools can resume educational day trips, in line with the latest public health guidance and wider guidance for schools on the actions they can take to reduce risks.

### **Suspected symptoms of coronavirus amongst the school community**

The Academy will fully engage with the NHS Test and Trace process and contact our local Public Health England health protection team. Parents/carers need to be ready to:

- book a test if you or your child are displaying symptoms. Students must not come into the school if they have symptoms, and must be sent home to self-isolate if they develop.
- provide details of anyone you have been in close contact with if you or your child test positive for coronavirus or if asked by NHS Test and Trace
- self-isolate if you have been in close contact with someone who develops coronavirus symptoms or someone who tests positive for coronavirus

Anyone who displays symptoms of coronavirus should get a test. Tests can be booked online through the NHS testing and tracing website. Parents must inform us immediately of the results:

- if you or your child tests negative, and if you or your child feel well and no longer have symptoms similar to coronavirus (COVID-19), you can stop self-isolating.
- if you or your child tests positive, you should follow the 'stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus infection' and must continue to self-isolate for at least 7 days from the onset of their symptoms and your child may only return to school if they do not have symptoms other than a cough.

### **Confirmed case of coronavirus amongst the school community**

The Academy will take swift action if we become aware that someone who has attended has tested positive for coronavirus. We will contact the local health protection team that will carry out a rapid risk assessment to confirm who has been in close contact with the person during the period that they were infectious, and ensure they are asked to self-isolate. Based on the advice from the health protection team, we would then send home those students who have been in close contact with the person who has tested positive, advising them to

self-isolate for 14 days since they were last in close contact with that person when they were infectious. Close contact means:

- direct close contacts - face to face contact with an infected individual for any length of time, within 1 metre, including being coughed on, a face to face conversation, or unprotected physical contact (skin-to-skin)
- proximity contacts - extended close contact (within 1 to 2 metres for more than 15 minutes) with an infected individual

The health protection team will provide definitive advice on who must be sent home, and we will keep a record of students and staff in each bubble to help in this instance.

Household members of those contacts who are sent home do not need to self-isolate themselves unless your child who is self-isolating subsequently develops symptoms. If someone in a bubble that has been asked to self-isolate develops symptoms themselves within their 14-day isolation period they should follow 'stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus infection'. They should get a test, and:

- if the test delivers a negative result, they must remain in isolation for the remainder of the 14-day isolation period.
- if the test result is positive, they should inform us immediately, and must isolate for at least 7 days from the onset of their symptoms. Their household should self-isolate for at least 14 days from when the symptomatic person first symptoms had, following 'stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus infection'

#### **If we have more than one confirmed case**

If the Academy was to experience an outbreak (2 or more confirmed cases of coronavirus among students or staff within 14 days, or if there is an increase in absence due to suspected cases of coronavirus), we will contact our local health protection team. This team will advise any additional action, though the closure of the whole school will generally not be necessary.

Where an outbreak in a school is confirmed, a mobile testing unit may be dispatched to test others who may have been in contact with the person who has tested positive. Testing will focus on the person's class, their year group, the whole school, if necessary. If our local area sees a spike in infection rates, we may be advised to implement further measures.