



Dear parents and carers,

### **Returning to school and Covid-19 precautions from September**

I would like to thank everyone for their support this year. Our young people have shown great maturity in following the Covid-19 precautions we have had in place and adapted well to the changes.

As you may know, the Government has published new guidance for schools around Covid-19 precautions to come into effect shortly. You [can read the guidance here](#) or by searching 'Schools COVID-19 operational guidance Step 4.'

#### **In September, what precautions will be the same?**

##### 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.

##### COVID-19 symptoms and positive tests

Pupils and staff must not come to school if they have symptoms of Covid, have had a positive test, or are required to quarantine. If a pupil shows symptoms at school, parents will need to collect them and request a test.

The household (including any symptoms) should follow the [Public Health England stay at home guidance](#) for households with possible or confirmed COVID-19 infection.

##### Risk assessments

Senior leaders at school will continue to meet regularly to assess the risk at school. If necessary and in consultation with Public Health England, we will make changes to our arrangements to increase the precautions we have in place.

##### Asymptomatic testing

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

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As pupils will potentially mix with lots of other people during the summer holidays, all secondary school pupils will receive 2, on-site site lateral flow device (LFD) tests, 3 to 5 days apart, just before or on their return in the autumn term. Please see the additional information that I have included with this letter about asymptomatic testing, that asks for your consent. We must receive your consent for your child to take a LFD test, and we encourage every student and family to consider this request carefully. The tests provide an additional protection that helps us to reduce the risk of Covid-19 amongst our school community.

The easiest way to give consent is via the MCAS App - If you do not have access to the MCAS app, information on how to download the app is available on our school website here [MCAS - Oasis Academy Lister Park](#).

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 in line with the stay at home guidance. They will also need to get a free PCR test to check if they have COVID19. 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.

### Arrangements for return to school in September

**Students will return on Tuesday 7th September for LFT Testing only.** Students will only be requested in school for a test then they are to go home. Students must also be in full school uniform please. Testing will be completed on by year group as follows:

Year Group	Reporting time	Testing end time	Line Up location
Years 13, 12	8:30	9:30	Moghul Gardens
Year 11	9:30	10:30	Moghul Gardens
Year 10	10:30	11:30	Moghul Gardens
Year 9	11:30	12:30	Moghul Gardens
Year 8	12:30	13:30	Moghul Gardens
Year 7	13:30	15:00	Moghul Gardens

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Following the testing day students will return as detailed below:

**Wednesday 8th September (Year 7, 12 &13):**

Year 7 from 0825 report to the Main Hall on arrival

Year 12 at 1100 report to the Main Hall on arrival

Year 13 at 1300 report to the Main Hall on arrival

All year groups will be dismissed at 1500, the new Academy finish time.

**Thursday 9th September (All Year groups):**

Year	Line Up Space	Start Time	End of Day time
Year 7	Outside of Stair 3	0825	1500
Year 8	Outside Sports Hall	0825	1500
Year 9	Moghul Gardens	0825	1500
Year 10	Student Entrance 2	0825	1500
Year 11	Student Entrance 1	0825	1500
Post 16	Normal Lessons	1100	1500

**In September, what precautions are changing?**

Bubbles

The government's new advice explains that they are no longer recommending that it is necessary to keep children in consistent groups (or bubbles). This means that assemblies will be able to resume, lunch service can return to something like normal, and that the pupils will be able to use all the subject-specific classrooms.

We will spend some time over the summer considering what will work best around pupils moving around the academy. It is a requirement of the new guidance that we can quickly move back to bubbles should positive cases rise within the academy or in our local community.

Tracing close contacts and isolation

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After the 19<sup>th</sup> July schools will not be 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.

In addition, from September children under the age of 18 will not be required to self-isolate if they are a close contact of a confirmed case. Instead they will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace and advised to take a PCR Test.

**Sixth form only** - 18-year-olds will be treated in the same way as children until 4 months after their 18th birthday, to allow them the opportunity to get fully vaccinated. At which point, they will be subject to the same rules as adults and so if they choose not to get vaccinated, they will need to self-isolate if identified as a close contact.

#### 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. Understanding as we do the level of risk here in Bradford District, we strongly encourage students and staff to continue to wear a face covering but note that this is now 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.

As ever this is a lot of information, but we wanted to provide you with a full update. 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.

If you have any questions or queries, please send these via MCAS. If you do not have access to the MCAS app, information on how to download the app is available on our school website here [MCAS - Oasis Academy Lister Park](#) . If you are having difficulty accessing MCAS you can email [admin@oasislisterpark.org](mailto:admin@oasislisterpark.org) or call the school.

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Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Siân Dover".

**Principal**  
**Oasis Academy Lister Park**

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