

02 June 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Update on re-opening secondary schools – 1st June

I hope you and your family have been well during these weeks of lockdown. Following my previous letter, you may have seen an announcement from the government regarding the phased return of Year 10 and Year 12 students from June 15th. I am writing to update you on the plans we are putting in place here at Oasis Academy Lister Park.

Government Guidance

The government guidance is as follows:

“From 15 June, secondary schools are able to offer face-to-face support for a quarter of the year 10 and 12 cohort at any one time. Alongside this, the government is asking secondary schools to:

- *continue providing full-time provision for eligible young people. This provision is for pupils in all year groups (including year 10 and year 12)*
- *continue providing full-time provision for children of critical workers in all year groups (including year 10 and year 12)*
- *provide some face-to-face support to supplement the remote education of year 10 and year 12 pupils, with a clear expectation that remote education will continue to be the predominant form of education delivery for these year groups and that this should be of high quality*
- *continue to use best endeavours to support all other pupils remaining at home, making use of the available remote education support and ensuring a high-quality offer”*

You can read the longer guidance by searching for ‘*Guidance for secondary school 15 June*’. This guidance was released by the DfE.

What does this mean for Oasis Academy Lister Park’s Year 10 and Year 12 students?

The safety of your child and your family, and of our staff, is our number one priority. The government has provided a list of actions they would like the academy to take to ensure that we can open for more young people safely.

Over the last few weeks, Oasis’ primary academies have been preparing for re-opening this week, and we have been following similar risk assessments in anticipation of this government announcement. We will be working hard over the next two weeks to make the necessary arrangements – as you can imagine there are lots of things to consider.

Executive Principal: Mr Ian Simpson
Associate Principal: Mrs Siân Dover
North Avenue, Bradford, BD8 7ND
Tel. 01274 362 050
www.oasisacademylisterpark.org

Once we have thought through the arrangements to meet the government's requirements, we intend to open the academy safely for our Year 10 and Year 12 students, on a rota basis, and I will be in touch with you again the week beginning Monday 8th June to confirm arrangements for your child. At that point, we will also be providing you with the opportunity to ask any questions and to raise any concerns with us.

I know that you will have many questions about returning to school, about how things will work in school in this 'new normal' environment. We understand that you and your child will need to feel confident about the arrangements,

What do I do now?

Once you have received our letter confirming the arrangements, we would very much like to hear from you about whether you are willing for your child to return. We shall ask you to provide us with this information in our next letter and explain how to do this.

Other important details:

Continued distance learning and live lessons for Yrs10 and 12

As remote learning is the main form of education for children in the coming weeks, we will do our utmost to support your child as best we can in this. With this in mind, we are increasing the number of live lessons delivered to Year 10 and 12 classes on Microsoft Teams. Students are already finding live lessons engaging as they have the following benefits:

- Students are being taught rather than learning on their own
- Students can ask teachers questions there and then if they get stuck
- Students feel more connected to their teachers and their peers
- Students feel more motivated

To support you and your child, the timetable for live lessons will be available on the academy website, and we will also send out text message reminders in advance. This is to help you remain in the loop, as we know that remote learning is so much harder than learning in school. The live lessons work to a different timetable so that staff with children, for example, can deliver them at a time that works for them. Students will be notified about live lessons on Microsoft Teams, and these lessons will enhance the other work being set, so that they learn and do well in their exams next year.

Continued provision

Over the coming weeks, we remain open to provide childcare for the relevant families, including the children of key workers. The food voucher scheme also continues as normal for those eligible.

Please rest assured that we are taking the re-opening of the academy extremely seriously. Please be patient with us as we work on the necessary arrangements ahead of 15th June.

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Thank you, as always, for your support and your patience as we work on the safe re-opening of the academy.

Yours faithfully,

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

Sian Dover
Associate Principal

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ian Simpson".

Ian Simpson
Executive Principal

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