



Thursday 19th March 2020

Dear Parents / Carers

Academy closure due to Coronavirus – Last day Friday 20th March

On Wednesday, Public Health England announced that all schools are to close from the end of the school day this Friday (20th March). This is based on advice that school closures will help to slow the spread of the coronavirus.

Oasis Academy Leesbrook will remain open to all students until the end of the school day on Friday.

The Government has said that some schools are going to be open going forward for certain groups of young people.

Is my child eligible for childcare next week?

Following all schools closing this Friday, the government has asked some schools to remain open to the following children:

· Children who have one of the following support plans:

o Education plan

o Health plan

o Care plan

· Children whose parent/carers are keyworkers. We expect be advised as to who these key workers are – we will post this on the website and will be back in contact with you.

If you believe you are a keyworker and meet the criteria, please be in contact with Mr Dixon and we will be back in touch with arrangements.

I am not a key worker, and my child is not eligible for these arrangements. What's next?

We are sorry that we can only offer childcare facilities to certain children. We recognise that for many of you the upcoming closure, and for some the imposed isolation, will be hard. It is important to find safe and suitable childcare for your child, either with you at home or with trusted family or friends. It is of vital importance that you do not let elderly family or friends, or those with a medical vulnerability, look after your children as they are the most at risk of having serious complications should they be infected by the coronavirus.

Principal – Sarah Livesey

Oasis Academy Leesbrook
Middleton Road, Oldham, OL9 6DE

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Education Provision

We have been working hard in preparation for the closure of the Academy to ensure that we are in a position to support all of our children to continue to learn even while they cannot come to school.

We will need your support in ensuring that your child completes the work that is set for them while they are at home. It is important that they understand that this is not a holiday, or a day off school due to snow.

All of our students know how important it is for them to be at school each day, making progress. While we are unable to open the Academy, our teachers will still be setting work and providing feedback to each student.

We strongly advise that each school day at home has a structure, and we will supply pack resources and/or online support for each class.

We are still working hard on completing these resources and finalising exactly how these provisions will work. On Monday our teachers will meet to finalise plans with an aim to communicate the arrangements with you at the earliest opportunity. Please be patient while we get these resources set up.

Work will be available on the Academy website, on class charts, OneDrive and through the Homework booklets already provided and additional ones which will be distributed tomorrow.

Students who are entitled to Free School Meals & young carers

Throughout this period of Academy closure, we will make every effort to ensure that we are able to provide your child with a free school meal. We are awaiting further information from the government on this, and we are collaborating with our suppliers and other local groups. We will provide an update on this shortly.

Friday 20th - An opportunity to give to those in need

The disruption to supermarkets means that our local foodbanks are particularly stretched, leaving them in desperate need of donations. Therefore, we invite all children to come to school tomorrow in non-uniform, with an item suitable to give to a foodbank. In these hard times, we want to show our compassion for those who will be struggling in the next weeks.

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Updates and queries

If you have any questions regarding the above information, please do not hesitate to contact us via phone or email and we'll be happy to support.

We understand that the spread of the virus may be concerning for you or your child. By following the government's advice on good hygiene and frequent handwashing (gov.uk and search 'coronavirus'), and by self-isolating as a household for 14 days should you develop a new consistent cough or develop a high temperature (accessing NHS111 online should your conditions get worse), there is no need to be alarmed.

We will continue to update you via letter, Facebook or text, and by updating the Academy website. I thank you sincerely for your continued and on-going support for our academy community and Leesbrook family at this time.

Yours sincerely

Sarah Livesey

Principal

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