



4th January, 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Important Update – Tuesday 5th January

Further to my letter last week on the arrangements for the next couple of weeks, I am writing to you with an important update regarding tomorrow. All Oasis academies will be holding an additional INSET day on Tuesday 5th January, in addition to the one today.

I apologise for the late notice of this change but considering reports that the new variant of the coronavirus can travel between people more quickly, we wanted to ensure that we are doing all we can to keep everyone safe.

The controls we have had in place at the school since September have worked well to keep our school community safe, and tomorrow we will be revisiting each to ensure we remain fully compliant. Our Health and Safety Committee will be meeting, and as a staff team we will again go over the safety measures we have in place.

All schools within the Oasis Community Learning family will be using the day to double, treble check the precautions, and if possible, introduce additional safeguards. Please rest assured that this is not due to any concerns at the Academy about the measures we have in place, rather that we are taking the time to go through everything methodically – as ever, everyone's health and safety is our priority.

What does this mean for my young person?

- Students whose parents are key workers or who are determined by the DfE as 'vulnerable' are to attend school from Wednesday 6th January, not Tuesday 5th January as previously communicated. Please check the attached information provided for further guidance on this.
- All other students are to access their lessons remotely from Wednesday 6th January at 8:15AM, starting with Family Time. It is vitally important that any students unable to access remote learning contacts the Academy and we will arrange for them to be able to access the lessons. All students are expected to attend every single live lesson and an attendance register will be taken at the start of every lesson.

Principal – Sarah Livesey

Oasis Academy Leesbrook
Roxbury Avenue, Oldham, OL4 5JE

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  @OasisLeesbrook

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- All students are required to return to school in person on Monday 18th January. We will update you directly if there are any changes to this.
- If your child receives free school meals, but they are not eligible to come to school at this time, then they will be able to collect a hamper from Tuesday from the Academy-please email info@oasisleesbrook.org or call the Academy directly if you wish to request this.

Covid-19 testing within school

We are still developing our plans for delivering Covid-19 testing for both students and staff. We will be in touch with you again later this week, and how we will gather your permission and consent for your young person to be tested ahead of them returning to school.

Once again, I apologise for the late notice of this change; please rest assured that we are doing all that we can to make the Academy safe for everyone, reduce risk however we can, and to be open for as many of our pupils as is safely possible.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light-colored background, appearing to read 'S. Livesey'.

Sarah Livesey
Principal, Oasis Academy Leesbrook

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Government guidance : Critical workers and vulnerable children who can access schools or educational settings - 3rd December 2020

Government guidance on who are critical workers, and which children are deemed vulnerable is provided below, and also on the government's website.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

Vulnerable children and young people include those who:

- are assessed as being in need under section 17 of the Children Act 1989, including children and young people who have a child in need plan, a child protection plan or who are a looked-after child
- have an education, health and care (EHC) plan
- have been identified as otherwise vulnerable by educational providers or local authorities (including children's social care services), and who could therefore benefit from continued full-time attendance, this might include:
 - children and young people on the edge of receiving support from children's social care services
 - adopted children, those at risk of becoming NEET ('not in employment, education or training')
 - those living in temporary accommodation, those who are young carers
 - those who may have difficulty engaging with remote education at home (for example due to a lack of devices or quiet space to study)
 - others at the provider and local authority's discretion

Critical workers

Parents whose work is critical to the coronavirus (COVID-19) response include those who work in health and social care and in other key sectors outlined in the following sections.

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Health and social care

This includes, but is not limited to, doctors, nurses, midwives, paramedics, social workers, care workers, and other frontline health and social care staff including volunteers; the support and specialist staff required to maintain the UK's health and social care sector; those working as part of the health and social care supply chain, including producers and distributors of medicines and medical and personal protective equipment.

Education and childcare

- childcare
- support and teaching staff
- social workers
- specialist education professionals who must remain active during the coronavirus (COVID-19) response to deliver this approach

Key public services

- those essential to the running of the justice system
- religious staff
- charities and workers delivering key frontline services
- those responsible for the management of the deceased
- journalists and broadcasters who are providing public service broadcasting

Local and national government

- those administrative occupations essential to the effective delivery of the coronavirus (COVID-19) response
- or delivering essential public services, such as the payment of benefits, including in government agencies and arms length bodies

Food and other necessary goods, those involved in food

- production
- processing
- distribution
- sale and delivery

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- as well as those essential to the provision of other key goods (for example hygienic and veterinary medicines)

Public safety and national security, including:

- police and support staff
- Ministry of Defence civilians
- contractor and armed forces personnel (those critical to the delivery of key defence and national security outputs and essential to the response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak)
- fire and rescue service employees (including support staff)
- National Crime Agency staff
- those maintaining border security, prison and probation staff and other national security roles, including those overseas

Transport

This includes those who will keep the air, water, road and rail passenger and freight transport modes operating during the coronavirus (COVID-19) response, including those working on transport systems through which supply chains pass.

Utilities, communication and financial services

- staff needed for essential financial services provision (including but not limited to workers in banks, building societies and financial market infrastructure)
- the oil, gas, electricity and water sectors (including sewerage)
- information technology and data infrastructure sector and primary industry supplies to continue during the coronavirus (COVID-19) response
- key staff working in the civil nuclear, chemicals, telecommunications (including but not limited to network operations, field engineering, call centre staff, IT and data infrastructure, 999 and 111 critical services)
- postal services and delivery
- payments providers
- waste disposal sectors

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