



Thursday 22nd October 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Plans for return: Monday 9th November, 2020

As ever, I send my best wishes to you and your family during the ongoing disruption caused by the Coronavirus. I am writing to you today to update you on our next steps as an Academy as we prepare to move into our new building on Monday 9th November, 2020.

Oasis Academy Leesbrook, Roxbury Avenue, Oldham OL4 5JE

As you will all be aware, we have been working on every part of the design and build of our brand new, purpose built Oasis Academy Leesbrook building since 2017. We are now at the stage where it is due to complete and we are all so excited. I can assure you all it is truly a wonderful building and a perfect place for our Leesbrookers to call home; exactly what they deserve. Our staff will move to the building on Monday 2nd November, after a one week half term break. They will spend this week preparing the building to ensure our students are ready to learn in the school from their very first day on **Monday 9th November, 2020**.

Travel

On Monday 9th November, students need to be in the building for 8:15AM, as normal. They will be directed to enter through Student Services. Any student who is late will need to enter through Main Reception. We are encouraging all students to walk, if at all possible, or, if required, use other forms of transport such as cycling. Please refer to the previous letter sent by Mr S Jones outlining the bus route. Please note: all applications for bus passes must go through Oldham Council and all enquiries regarding the bus route to go through Transport for Greater Manchester.

If other forms of travel are not an option and you plan to drive in please note that Roxbury Avenue is a very narrow, residential street therefore, we want to minimise any travel through this road. If it is imperative that you drive, please use the traffic management system which requires you to drive into the school site, drop off in a designated parking bay and drive out. Please DO NOT stop on Roxbury Avenue. This is a no stopping zone and there are traffic cameras in operation on the street that will fine anyone stopping on the road or the surrounding roads. Please access the street to get into the school through Breeze Hill Road. We are a community school and value the community that our school is located within. Please avoid causing any distress to residents by respecting and observing the dropping off procedures.

Principal – Sarah Livesey

Oasis Academy Leesbrook
Middleton Road, Oldham, OL9 6DE

Tel: 0161 290 4004 www.oasisacademyleesbrook.org

  @OasisLeesbrook

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Breeze Hill Road



Entrance/Exit from Roxbury Avenue

Please drive the full way around and leave via

Drop off bays located around the turning area. Do not stop anywhere but the drop off bays. Do not park in any of the car parking spaces.

Please also note that sharing lifts is not permitted under the current COVID-19 Government guidance. Students should only be coming into school in a car with those students in their household.

Covid Updates

As you know, we have had to send a number of bubbles home during our first half term. We are not alone in this with many schools nationally being required to do the same. We have been delighted with the engagement from the majority of our Leesbrookers during online learning. The quality of work completed by many of our students has been overwhelming and we have never been prouder of the commitment and passion our students have shown to their studies. May I also thank parents/carers for supporting with online learning and ensuring their child is online when they should be.

In addition, I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our wonderful Oasis Academy Leesbrook staff who are putting together engaging online learning for every bubble that is sent home. Our online learning provision is a blend of live and pre-recorded lessons with the teacher always present to register and answer any questions/challenge and misconceptions. Students follow their usual timetabled lessons and registration is recorded for each lesson and students are expected to be available online unless there is an issue with devices or internet access. This should be reported in advance, and where possible, the Academy will loan a device out or provide a work booklet which must be returned as soon as students return to the Academy. Please ensure that your child is at home isolating following a bubble closure. This is a legal requirement. They should also be following their timetable and engaging with the learning online or in their booklets. We are working hard to ensure there is as little impact of this pandemic on your child as possible and we ask that you support us in doing this by ensuring your child is working online during the school day hours. We will be in touch with parents of students who are not engaging and expecting students to catch up on any work missed.

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I would also like to take this opportunity to thank parents/carers for their continued support for the Academy during these difficult times. Your understanding, kind words and emails have been a real source of support during this half term. Thank you so much.

Visitors and Access to the Academy

In order to ensure the safe management of strict hygiene protocols in the Academy, we will continue to be operating a zero visitor policy. This means that parents/carers are not permitted in the Academy building. I am sure you will support us to maintain these high levels of risk aversion during these difficult times to ensure the safety of all students and staff on site. If you wish to speak to anyone in the Academy, please contact reception who will arrange a telephone/Teams/Skype meeting, as appropriate. This also applies to dropping students off in the morning. Parents/carers must not go onto the Academy site. I will write to all parents/carers once restrictions are relaxed. I really appreciate your support and cooperation in this matter.

Reminder of Expectations

In line with government announcements, all students were expected back at the Academy for the first day in September. Please see below a reminder of our expectations at Oasis Academy Leesbrook:

- The academy day starts at 8:15am; students must be through the gates 8:13am at the very latest in order to arrive at Family Time on time. Students are welcome to attend Breakfast Club which is free of charge to all students from 8:00am. Our Covid provision allows them to collect a bagel and eat it in their Family Group Room. Students who are late to the Academy will be required to sign in at reception and will have a detention with their Family Leader the same day.
- We are so proud of the student behaviour at Leesbrook. Visitors are blown away with the maturity and manners of our Leesbrookers. Our expectation is that all students and staff welcome each other with a “good morning” or “good afternoon”, make eye contact, smile and help one another such as opening doors.
- Correct uniform must be worn everyday. For example, black school shoes and not trainers; please check the soles of shoes that they are not ‘rubber’ trainer soles; if you are unsure, please email info@oasisleesbrook.org and we can confirm. Please also look closely at our school website and Home School Agreement to check the details of this. As you will see, we are very specific about our expectations and will not tolerate anything other than the specified uniform and correct clothing/hair styles. Oasis Academy Leesbrook uniform and PE kit is available from Zuttis on Yorkshire Street in Oldham.

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- Black Trousers/black pleated skirt, white shirt, school shoes and PE trainers can be purchased at a shop of your choice.
- We expect students to attend every school every single day, with time only taken off school for genuine sickness. You will be asked to provide evidence of any emergency medical appointments following your return to school. All medical and dental appointments must be taken outside of school time, unless unavoidable. No holidays will be authorised during the school term and families are likely to be fined by the council if time is taken off school to go on holiday or see family abroad.
- If your child tests positive for Covid-19, please inform us straight away. Please also note that, if they take a test, they must isolate until they receive the result. If positive, they must isolate for 10 days after the onset of the first symptom or 14 days after the day of the test, if there are no symptoms.
- We have a zero tolerance towards bullying. This means that there are serious consequences for anyone found to be trying to bully another student either in school or online. There is an anti-bullying team of staff and students available to all of our students. We ask parents/carers to closely monitor all social media used by their children and ensure that they are not accessing social media sites when they are underage.
- All students are expected to bring in the correct equipment each day. If they are missing any equipment they can purchase it from our uniform shop at a heavily discounted price. Please note that any student attending the academy in incorrect uniform will be provided with replacement uniform or shoes to enable them to continue with their school day.
- By the end of the year, our Academy is planning to be completely cashless. Therefore, we ask that all parents are signing up to Parent Pay to enable them to pay for any items in the Academy. We will be reducing cash handling in the Academy for a number of reasons so it is vital that you have this app in order to be able to pay for school meals, trips and other items. There is further information regarding how to download this app or visit online, at the end of this letter.
- You can monitor your child's progress and identify positive and negative behaviour points online through our Classcharts App. This also informs you if your child has a detention. If you have not been able to do so, please download this app. There is further information regarding how to download this app at the end of this letter.

Please ensure that you re-familiarise yourself with our Home School Agreement https://www.oasisacademyleesbrook.org/uploaded/Leesbrook/About_Us/Policies/Home_School_Agreement_.pdf for further, detailed information regarding our expectations. At Oasis Academy Leesbrook, we pride ourselves on having the highest of expectations in all aspects of our Academy life.

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Cultural Enrichment

As you all know, a key part of our Oasis Academy Leesbrook offer is our compulsory Cultural Enrichment programme, led by Mr Schollar. Unfortunately, we have had to suspend this programme during COVID and with the restrictions in our current building however, we are now able to offer a condensed programme starting in November. This is a compulsory element of our curriculum and will offer support to develop our students and prepare them for the future.

After half term we will be launching our Cultural Enrichment programme once again. At Oasis Academy Leesbrook we feel really passionate that our students have an outstanding experience outside of the classroom, helping to shaping their education and future. We have managed to keep our Homework Club provision running throughout this half term and that will continue to run, every day for one hour, when we enter the new build. Here, students can get help and resources to support them with their home learning.

Cultural Enrichment provides an opportunity after school to take part in new activities and develop students holistically, ready for when they become leaders in our community in the future. These activities and clubs can further support their education, develop new skills or continue to feed their passions and interests. We are also proud that there is no financial charge for any of these clubs; students can do them for free! This is unlike many schools and organisations which charge a fee for participation.

Due to COVID restrictions, we have re-modelled the programme making everyone as safe as possible. Each year group will be assigned a specific day and students will be expected to take part in one club per week. As always we have ensured that they will be given a choice of clubs they can join. ***They will participate in these clubs with their family group, to ensure all students are COVID safe.***

At Oasis Leesbrook we are extremely excited to be offering your child these opportunities once again. Students will be signing up after half term.

Cultural Enrichment Year Group Days

Tuesday 3pm-4pm – Year 9
Wednesday 3pm-4pm – Year 8
Thursday 3pm-4pm – Year 10
Friday 2:30pm-3:30pm – Year 7

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Telephone Contacts

It is absolutely imperative that we have a full list of emergency contacts on our school system, should we need to contact you in a medical emergency or bubble closure. Please can you ensure that these are updated and, if they change, please send an email to info@oasisleesbrook.org or call the Academy on 0161 290 4000 to update. We require at least two emergency contact details.

Coats and Lockers

As we are moving out of the building on Friday, we have informed students a number of times that they must remove any items that are still in the Academy by **Thursday 22nd October**. Anything left in the Academy after this will be disposed of. We cannot take any coats or student belongings over to the new build so please, ensure that they remove these or they will be disposed of.

In the new build, there will be a small number of lockers available for students at Key Stage 4. Locks will be charged approximately £10, to be paid on student's ParentPay account. Students may **not** bring their own locks in. Students will be allocated a locker number and may only use that locker.

In the meantime, students will be required to carry their coat and PE kit with them in the new build. As per our uniform guidance, please ensure that they have a bag big enough to keep these items.

Finally...

I would just like to reiterate my thanks to you all on what has been a really challenging half term. Your support, the students' excellent behaviour and the excitement of our brand new building has really kept us going through these challenging times.

Please enjoy a restful, safe and healthy two week break and I look forward to welcoming our students to our brand new building on Monday 9th November, 2020. When restrictions lift, I shall look forward to inviting families and members of the community to the building and discussing all of the exciting opportunities that are ahead of us.

Take care,
Sarah Livesey
Principal

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