

20th May 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Plans for the safe re-opening of Oasis Academy Clarksfield

Thank you for taking the time to reply to our survey, your responses are enabling us to plan for when we eventually open. **The survey is now closed** and we are unable to accept any more children at this time. Further to my message to you this week, I am writing to you today as a parent or carer with a child in **Nursery, Reception, Year 1 or Year 6** with information about the preparations we are making for the gradual return of pupils to the Academy next month. All other year groups are not to attend at this time unless you are a key Worker or have been contacted by Mrs Beswick.

The Government would like children of your child's age group to return to school from 1st June, after the half-term holiday. This is in addition to the children who are able to attend now (children of key workers and other eligible children).

We plan to open on Monday 1st June for your child in Year 1 and Year 6. We plan to open for Nursery and Reception on Monday 8th June. The re-opening will only happen if the Government and the medical experts say that it is safe to do so, and once we have made all the necessary arrangements to keep your child and our staff safe. The government have said they will update us on May 28th after which I will send further updates and information.

Questions and feedback

I know that you will have many questions about returning to school and about how things will work in this 'new normal' environment. We understand that you will need to feel confident about the arrangements. To help address some of these questions I have provided a frequently asked questions document over leaf along with this letter. If you have further questions or concerns you would like addressed, please contact us at admin@oasisclarksfield.org

We will keep all aspects of our school preparations under review and take feedback from staff, parents and carers.

What do I need to do now?

There is a lot of information here, but I wanted you to have the full detail of what we are doing to make the Academy safe and welcoming for our pupils. As I said previously it will be different to normal, we will of course take as long as it takes to introduce the changes to the children and make sure they are calm and happy when we welcome them back.

Thank you as ever for your patience and understanding during this time, and the support you are showing the team who are working exceptionally hard to do all they can for the pupils.

Yours sincerely,



Nigel Fowler
Principal, Oasis Academy Clarksfield

Principal – Mr Nigel Fowler

Associate Principal – Mrs Lauren Norris

Grasmere Road, Oldham, OL4 1NG

Tel: 0161 213 1235 <https://www.oasisacademyclarksfield.org/>



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Frequently asked questions

I know that you will have many questions about returning to school; I have tried to anticipate some questions, and also reproduced some of the Government's latest advice:

Can my child return to school?

From Monday 1st June, we will initially be inviting children in Year 1 and Year 6 to return.

From Monday 8th June we will be inviting children in Nursery and Reception to return.

We will also provide childcare to the children of key workers and other eligible children.

What if my child is eligible but has siblings who are not?

We are only able to welcome back children in the above groups. This does not include siblings in different year groups unless those siblings are in a priority group, for example, the children of key workers.

If my child is eligible, is it compulsory for them to attend school?

No. The Government strongly encourages children in the eligible year groups and priority groups (such as children of key workers) to attend, as requested, unless they are self-isolating or there are other reasons for absence (such as shielding due to health conditions).

Parents will not be fined for non-attendance at this time.

Do all children eligible for childcare who are not currently attending have to go back to school?

No. The Academy is open for all those children who are eligible for childcare, in every year group, and attendance is encouraged.

Should I keep my child at home if they have an underlying health condition or live with someone in a clinically vulnerable group?

- Children and young people who are considered extremely clinically vulnerable and shielding should continue to shield and are not expected to attend.
- Clinically vulnerable (but not clinically extremely vulnerable) people are those considered to be at a higher risk of severe illness from coronavirus. A minority of children will fall into this category, and parents should follow medical advice if their child is in this category.
- Children who live in a household with someone who is extremely clinically vulnerable and shielding should only attend if stringent social distancing can be adhered to and the child or young person is able to understand and follow those instructions.
- Children and young people who live with someone who is clinically vulnerable (but not extremely clinically vulnerable) as defined in the social distancing guidance and including those who are pregnant, can attend.

What happens if there is a confirmed case of coronavirus at the Academy?

If a child or staff member develops symptoms compatible with coronavirus, they will be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 7 days. We need you to ensure that your child can be collected as soon as possible. Those they live with should also self-isolate for 14 days. As you know, tests are available for anyone who displays symptoms including children over 5.

Where the child or staff member tests positive, the rest of their class/group will be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 14 days. The other household members of that wider class do not need to self-isolate unless the child or staff member they live with in that group subsequently develops symptoms.

As we are observing guidance on infection prevention and control, that reduces the risk of transmission, closure of the whole Academy will not generally be necessary.

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