

16 July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Oasis Academy Bank Leaze opening for all pupils in September

As ever, I send my best wishes to you and your family during the ongoing disruption caused by the coronavirus.

Following my recent letter to you about the government's guidelines for all children to return to school in September, I am writing today to update you on our plans.

As you will be aware, the Government has made it clear that all pupils, in all year groups, are expected to return to school full-time from the beginning of September. You [can read the guidance here](#)/by searching for 'DfE guidance parents.'

To ensure that all pupils and staff can return safely, there are a significant number of actions that the Government have asked us to take. We must:

- Minimise the risk of transmission of coronavirus
- Be able to continue teaching and learning in the case of a local outbreak
- Alter how we run the Academy day-to-day to meet the new safety requirements
- Amend our curriculum, behaviour and pastoral support offer in the context of all the new arrangements.

The purpose of this letter is to explain how we intend to meet these expectations. As always, our first priority is the safety and wellbeing of the children, your family and our staff. We will take every precaution, so that we reduce the risk as much as possible and be in a position to finally welcome back all of our pupils.

The arrangements we are putting in place are lengthy to explain. For ease of reference I have attached them to this letter but provided a brief summary of them below together with the details that specifically relate to your child. I have also attached a shortened copy of the Government's latest advice to parents for your reference.

Summary of arrangements

1. With the support of Oasis Community Learning, we have completed an in-depth risk assessment which has been reviewed by the academy's local health and safety committee. This committee will continue to meet weekly until further notice.

2. In order to reduce the risk of transmission across the whole academy, we will be creating bubbles to keep children in consistent groups in line with government guidance. Each class/ key stage group will be part of a bubble that will stay together throughout each day, being taught in one classroom and have break and lunchtimes together.

3. For primary-aged pupils, there is no in-class social distancing required. However, we are encouraging a no touching policy from year 1 upwards (no hugging, high fives, hand holding etc.)

Principal - Ms Amelia Nelson

Corbet Close, Lawrence Weston, Bristol, BS11 0SN
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4. Hygiene is an essential part of a safe return, and pupils and staff will be required to wash their hands/use hand sanitizer thoroughly upon arrival at school, before and after eating, and after break times. Hygiene will be everyone's responsibility, including all pupils, to ensure we make the Academy as safe as we possibly can.

As per normal, the Academy will be cleaned every day, and we will be wiping down surfaces and equipment more frequently to reduce transmission of the virus.

Questions and feedback

We completely understand that you will need to feel confident about the arrangements. Please take the time to read the accompanying arrangements document where we explain in more detail how school will work in this 'new normal' environment. If you have any questions or concerns that are not addressed in these documents, please contact us at info@oasisbankleaze.org

What do I need to know for September?

The start of the school year for all pupils will be **Monday 07 September 2020**. There will be 2 INSET days on the 03 and 04 September. This is to ensure that all systems are COVID secure and that all staff are familiar with and understand the measure in places.

We will move forward with a 'soft' start to the day with classroom doors being open to pupils from 8:40. Pupils will need to be dropped off at their classroom door (or other location in KS2 still to be confirmed). As per normal, registers will be begin to be taken at 8:50, closing at 9:00. **Please note, the school will now operate in a one way system- more details on this to follow. Parents will not be allowed in the classroom and control measures will be used to minimise contact in the school foyer, if you need to see the office staff for any reason.**

Term Dates 2020-21

Term 1 – Monday 07 September – Friday 23 October
Term 2 – Monday 02 November – Friday 18 December
Term 3 – Monday 04 January 2021 – Friday 12 February
Term 4 – Monday 22 February – Thursday 01 April
Term 5 – Monday 19 April – Friday 28 May
Term 6 – Monday 07 June – Friday 23 July

INSET days in 2020-21 (Academy closed):

03 September 2020
04 September 2020
16 October 2020
20 November 2020
11 December 2020
04 January 2021
02 July 2021

Term dates will also be uploaded to our website this week

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Breakfast Club/ after School clubs

We are looking forward to re-opening breakfast club. We expect this to be from 14th September onwards- more details will follow on this during the summer break. Reception children will be able start breakfast club after October half term.

We are keen to offer a full range of staff led extra- curricular activities as soon as we are able and staff have settled in to their new routine with their classes- further details to follow in September.

We are also looking in to a paid After School Care Facility that we would run as a school likely until 5:00/ 5:15pm. A survey will be coming out shortly to see interest for this.

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. While it will be a little different to normal, we will of course take the time to ensure all of our pupils understand the changes when we welcome them back, and will provide additional support for any of our young people who are apprehensive having been out of school for such a long time.

Having considered the information in this letter and the FAQs, please let us know if you have any further questions you or your child would like to know by emailing us at info@oasisbankleaze.org

If you don't have any further questions, we look forward to seeing your child **on Monday 07 September 2020**. Current Nursery parents you will be receiving more guidance next week detailing your child's start date.

Thank you as ever for your patience and understanding during this time, and the support you are providing to your child. We cannot wait to welcome them back in September so that they safely and happily can get back to their studies.

Yours sincerely,



Amelia Nelson

Principal, Oasis Academy Bank Leaze

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