

24 March 2020

Dear Year 11 students, parents and guardians

## RE: COVID 19 - YEAR 11 AND NEXT STEPS

Last week we spoke to all of the Year 11s who were present at the academy as well as parents of students who were not present at the academy in response to the decisions made by the government about schools closing and exams being cancelled.

We are now writing to all Year 11 students and parents to reassure you that we had anticipated these decisions and we are confident our students are well placed for success.

### How will I get my GCSEs now?

The Secretary of State promised clearly that all students in year 11 and year 13 will receive the recognition they deserve and that you will receive qualifications. All year 11 students have to keep working whilst the government works with schools to plan how you will receive those qualifications. At the moment we know that exam boards will set out a process that will provide a calculated grade to each student which reflects their performance as fairly as possible. The exam boards will be asking teachers, who know their students well, to submit their judgement about the grade that they believe the student would have received if exams had gone ahead. While we do not have all the details yet about how the decisions will be made about grades, we do know that these decisions will take into account evidence and data about how, and the level to which, all students are working. With this in mind, it is essential that you continue to work hard and therefore continue to build evidence of all that you know and have achieved.

### What about sixth form or college?

We are committed to ensuring you get to the sixth forms and colleges you want to go to, and that you get your dream job. The Government clearly stated that students should not pause their ambitions and that schools and universities will adjust, and work off the new system that is in place. The Government also said in their speech that qualifications would be awarded fairly, and that students would have an opportunity to appeal if they don't think these are fair. We will communicate with you again soon about next steps for your college applications.

### What should I do now?

The focus must be that we continue to teach you, support you and assess you. You will still get the rewards for your efforts that you have been working towards. While we are working differently at the moment, it is important that we all have an "I can do this" and "I will make this work" mentality about working at home.

The logo for Oasis Academy Silvertown features the word "Oasis" in a white sans-serif font inside a purple circle, set against a purple rectangular background. Below this, the words "Academy" and "Silvertown" are written in white on a dark blue triangular background that points downwards. A dark blue horizontal line extends from the right side of the logo across the top of the page.

Oasis

Academy  
Silvertown

**What about the prom, achievement assembly and other celebrations?**

We are aware that many of you will be disappointed that the celebration activities planned for you cannot happen yet. We would like to reassure you that as soon as the academy reopens, there will be plans in place for you to mark the end of year 11, celebrate all that you have achieved and say goodbye to your Oasis Silvertown family. There will also be opportunities for you to contribute to the life of the academy as alumni which we will communicate to you when the academy reopens.

These are unprecedented times, but I want to reassure you that you will be fine. Your own family, this family at Oasis Silvertown and your big Oasis family will ensure you get the GCSEs, the sixth form place and dream job that you have worked so hard to achieve.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "J. Thompson", written in a cursive style.

Ms Johanna Thompson  
**Principal**