

19 March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

**RE: ACADEMY CLOSURE DUE TO CORONAVIRUS – LAST DAY FRIDAY 20 MARCH 2020**

On Wednesday, Public Health England announced that all schools are to close from the end of the school day this Friday (20 March 2020). This is based on advice that school closures will help to slow the spread of the coronavirus.

Oasis Academy Silvertown will remain open to all students until the end of the school day (3.15pm) on Friday 20 March 2020.

The Government has said that some schools are going to be open going forward for certain groups of young people.

**Is my child eligible for childcare next week?**

Following all schools closing this Friday, the government has asked some schools to remain open to the following children:

- Children who have one of the following support plans:
  - Education plan
  - Health plan
  - Care plan
- Children whose parents/carers are keyworkers. We expect to be advised as to who these key workers are – we will post this on the website and will be back in contact with you.
- If you believe you are a keyworker and meet the criteria, please ensure you let us know this information when we request this from you soon. We will be back in touch with the next steps and arrangements for your child.

**I am not a key worker and my child is not eligible for these arrangements. What's next?**

We are sorry that we can only offer childcare facilities to certain children. We recognise that for many of you the upcoming closure, and for some the imposed isolation, will be hard.

It is important to find safe and suitable childcare for your child, either with you at home or with trusted family or friends. It is of vital importance that you do not let elderly family or friends, or those with a medical vulnerability, look after your children as they are the most at risk of having serious complications should they be infected by the coronavirus.

**Education Provision**

We have been working hard in preparation for the closure of the Academy to ensure that we are in a position to support all of our children to continue to learn even while they cannot come to school.



We will need your support in ensuring that your child completes the work that is set for them while they are at home. It is important that they understand that this is not a holiday, or a day off school due to snow. All of our students know how important it is for them to be at school each day, making progress. While we are unable to open the Academy, our teachers will still be setting work and providing feedback to our students.

We strongly advise that each school day at home has a structure, and we will shortly send you a letter with more detail on this and send a pack of resources home with your child on Friday 20 March 2020. *If your child is not currently attending the academy due to self-isolation, we will contact you by telephone soon to talk through the plans in more detail, and we will post home the pack of resources to you.*

### **Examinations**

All exams in England due to be sat in May and June have been cancelled, including GCSEs.

We are awaiting more information from the government on this, but they have assured that young people will get the qualifications they need. We will update students and families that this affects once we know more.

### **Updates and queries**

If you have any questions regarding the above information, please do not hesitate to contact us via phone or email and we'll be happy to support.

We understand that the spread of the virus may be concerning for you or your child. By following the government's advice on good hygiene and frequent handwashing (gov.uk and search 'coronavirus'), and by self-isolating as a household for 14 days should you develop a new consistent cough or develop a high temperature (accessing NHS111 online should your conditions get worse), there is no need to be alarmed.

We will continue to update you via letter or text, and by updating the Academy website. If your contact details (mobile number, email and address) have recently changed, please ensure you email us your updated details to [office@oasissilvertown.org](mailto:office@oasissilvertown.org).

I thank you sincerely for your continued and on-going support for our academy community at this time.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Johanna', is located below the 'Yours sincerely' text.

Johanna Thompson  
**Principal**