

08 June 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

RE: PLANS FOR THE RE-OPENING OF OASIS ACADEMY SILVERTOWN FOR YR10 STUDENTS FROM 15 JUNE 2020

Further to my letter to you last week, I am pleased to be writing to you today with further details on the preparations we are making for the gradual return of our Year 10 students from next week. As a team, we are keen to safely welcome your child back to school.

The Government and medical advisors consider the situation with the coronavirus to be improving and would like Year 10 students to return for some face-to-face support. This is in addition to our students who are able to attend now (those whose parents are key workers or are otherwise eligible for additional support).

As I shared in my previous message, the Government's guidance is as follows:

"From 15 June, secondary schools are able to offer face-to-face support for a quarter of the year 10 and 12 cohort at any one time. Alongside this the government is asking secondary schools to:

- continue providing full-time provision for eligible young people and for children of critical workers. This provision is for pupils in all year groups (including year 10 and year 12)*
- provide some face-to-face support to supplement the remote education of year 10 & year 12 pupils, with an expectation that remote education will continue to be the predominant form of education delivery for these year groups and that this should be of high quality*
- continue to use best endeavours to support all other pupils remaining at home, making use of the available remote education support and ensuring a high-quality offer"*

Our commitment to safety

Our number one priority is the safety of your child, your family and of our staff. We have worked hard to ensure that we meet the Government guidelines for reopening and in some places we are pleased to say that we exceed those guidelines. Since the lock down began, we have remained open to provide childcare for the children of key workers and other eligible students and in doing so we have demonstrated therefore that with care and sensible planning and strong teamwork, your child is safe in our care.

We are only able to re-open the academy for those Year 10 students not currently attending, if the Government and the medical experts continue to confirm that it is safe to do so. Should the Public Health Authority indicate otherwise (for example with any change in the R factor) we will take immediate action to close the academy.

The details below set out the arrangements we have put in place to ensure as high a degree of safety as possible.



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What are the arrangements for my child?

As you will see from the above guidance, we are also only allowed to open to Year 10 on a rota basis at this stage, with a maximum of a quarter of the year group in at any one time.

With this in mind, we are inviting your child to attend school on two days, Monday and Friday from 9am-2pm, commencing Monday 15 June 2020 until the end of the summer term. The days allocated have been carefully chosen considering teaching arrangements and the needs of every student.

Your child will be taught English, Maths and Science to ensure they master all the topics they have been learning at home as well as having some study support for their other subjects the Academy Leadership Team. We will also provide some "circle time" activities for our students to support this transition.

We will send you your child's individual weekly timetable later this week, as well as contacting you by telephone in case you have any questions.

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 with this letter. If you have further questions or concerns you would like addressed, please contact us at office@oasisilvertown.org

We will also be providing a short video showing the arrangements we have made in the Academy later this week on the website and on our normal social media channels.

We will keep all aspects of our school preparations under review and will always seek to take on board your feedback.

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 students. While it will be a little different to normal, we will of course take the time to ensure all of our young people understand the changes when we welcome them back.

Thank you to those of you who have already let us know if your child will be attending. If you have still to confirm if your child will be attending, we would appreciate you doing so as soon as possible by calling the academy or emailing office@oasisilvertown.org. This will help us significantly in the planning.

Please also read Appendix 1 - Details of our Arrangements and Appendix 2 - Frequently Asked Questions which follow on from this letter.

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 students.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Johanna Thompson', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Johanna Thompson

Principal