

11th December 2020



Dear Parent/Carer

Christmas Holidays and the Return to School

I hope you and your family are well and will be able to enjoy some time off together during the Christmas holiday. I am so proud of the way our staff, parents and families have worked together since the Academy reopened in September. We have kept our academy community safe and ensured that students have progressed very well with their learning. Thank you.

I am writing to you regarding some important arrangements over the break.

Final Day of Term – Thursday 17th December

The Department for Education (DfE) has announced that schools are permitted to close on Friday 18th December for an INSET day. They want to maximise the time between the end of term and Christmas Day so that if children develop symptoms before the 25th December, they can isolate prior to mixing with family members from outside their household.

Following consultation with local authorities and the DfE, Oasis Community Learning has decided to close all Oasis academies on Friday 18th December. We do understand this will inconvenience some parents, while others have requested this. The key factor in this decision was what is best for the wellbeing of all our academy community.

Therefore, our last day of term will now be Thursday 17th December.

You can read the latest guidance about Christmas gatherings by searching for “gov.uk Christmas bubble” or by accessing this webpage:

www.gov.uk/government/publications/making-a-christmas-bubble-with-friends-and-family

Reporting COVID-19 over the Christmas holidays

COVID-19 exists in our wider community and therefore it is important to be especially aware of how your child is and whether they have symptoms of COVID-19. The most common symptoms of COVID-19 are a recent:

- new continuous cough and/or
- high temperature and/or
- a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

Principal - Rob Forder

Oasis Academy Lord's Hill

Romsey Road, Southampton, SO16 8FA

Tel: 023 8039 3660 Email: info@oasislordshill.org

www.oasisacademylordshill.org



Oasis Academy Lord's Hill is sponsored by Oasis Community Learning
www.oasiscommunitylearning.org - part of Oasis UK.

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If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19 they must get a test and remain at home for at least 10 days from when their symptoms first appeared until they receive a negative test result. Anyone with symptoms can receive a test by going to <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test> or by calling 119.

Reporting a Positive Test between 18th December and 23rd December

If your child has a positive case for COVID-19 between Friday 18th December and Wednesday 23rd December, please inform us as soon as possible by emailing COVIDtest@oasislordshill.org so that we can inform close contacts. In your email you should include your child's name, the date of their positive test and a contact telephone number.

Reporting a Positive Test between 24th December and 4th January

If your child has a positive test for COVID-19 during this period you must inform Public Health England. This will be done automatically if your child receives a test from a testing centre, and you can also do this by using the NHS App.

We also require you to let us know by emailing COVIDtest@oasislordshill.org.

Starting the New Term

If your child has symptoms, is unwell, or it has been confirmed that they have COVID-19, it is very important that they do not return to school until they have been tested or completed their period of self-isolation. If you are at all unsure, please contact us before bringing your child to school, and we can advise you.

If your child is well and is not required to isolate at home, they should return to school on **Tuesday 5th January 2021** for the start of the spring term

In the New Year we will continue with all our current precautions so that we can continue to operate safely.

Once again, I would like to thank you on behalf of my team of staff for your support over this term. Our students' determination to learn and succeed despite the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic has been exceptional.

Yours sincerely



Mr Rob Forder
Principal

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