



# Oasis Academy Brislington Prospectus



# A Message from our CEO

A very warm welcome to Oasis Community Learning!

I am delighted that you and your daughter or son are interested in becoming part of Oasis Academy Brislington.

Oasis Community Learning was established as a multi-academy Trust in 2004 with the vision to create "Exceptional Education at the Heart of the Community".

We now run academies in four main regions throughout the UK, providing either Primary, Secondary or All-through education.

All of our academies are committed to providing a rich educational experience and ensuring that every child and young person has the opportunity to achieve at the highest level.

Our ethos is integral to that provision. It is an expression of our character, a statement of who we are and therefore the lens through which we assess all we do. We are committed to a model of inclusion, equality, healthy relationships, hope and perseverance throughout all aspects of the life and culture of each academy community.

We passionately embrace learning and are committed to every child within our care reaching their full potential, developing holistically across every area of their lives both now and in their future.

All of this is underpinned by our philosophy of education which highlights our focus on inspirational leadership, deep learning and healthy communities. It aspires to develop the character and competence of every child within every community of which we are a part.

At Oasis Community Learning therefore, we believe we are all 'the architects of our students' lives' and as such we are committed to laying the right foundations for every one of our young people.

So we look forward to your daughter or son potentially becoming part of Oasis, in the knowledge that we will work in partnership with you to ensure they become confident learners ready to fulfil their aspirations in life.

Best wishes,  
John Murphy  
Chief Executive Officer, Oasis Community Learning

**"We passionately embrace learning and are committed to every child within our care reaching their full potential"**



**John Murphy**

Chief Executive Officer,  
Oasis Community Learning

# Principal's Welcome

## Work Hard; Look Smart; Be Nice

Thank you for taking the time to read our prospectus and consider our academy for your child's education. I am extremely proud to be leading Oasis Academy Brislington. There is not a day that goes by that I don't walk through our corridors and classroom with admiration for our young people. We are an academy built on inclusivity, equality and exceptional education. Serving our local community, we welcome 11-16 year olds of all faiths and non.

Our strong family ethos ensures that every child is treated as an individual, cared for and nurtured as they grow into young adults. Through exercising the Oasis ethos and instilling the 9 Habits (Compassionate, Honest, Joyful, Considerate, Hopeful, Patient, Forgiving, Humble and Self-controlled) throughout the academy, we are creating an environment for our young people to grow holistically and feel supported through this important stage of their lives. We are particularly proud of our outstanding '360 degrees of care' pastoral provision.

Our vision as an academy is to provide our students with 'the confidence, knowledge and skills to stand as first amongst equals'. Excellence is standard at Oasis Academy Brislington as we aim to offer our students the best opportunities for learning, growth and experiences in all areas of student life. Our curriculum is varied and challenging, tailored to meet the needs of all our young people, and our enrichment programme is informed and inspired by our students. Previously this has included enterprise competitions, STEM experience days, careers workshops, residential and many more.

This is an exciting time for your child as they embark on the next stage of their education, and we are delighted that you are considering our academy. Our promise to our student is that we will not give up on our mission of delivering exceptional education. We will be there with you every step of the way.

Brislington believes in you.

Peter Knight  
Principal



**Peter Knight**

Principal,  
Oasis Academy Brislington

# About the Academy

Our school community is diverse and energetic. We have a fully comprehensive, inclusive-of-all intake, with a focus on ensuring that every one of our students make excellent progress regardless of context or starting point. Our students are proud to attend our academy, our parents are proud to send their children here and our staff are proud to work here. We are a family, all sharing in the same vision and goals.

Oasis Academy Brislington is full of opportunity and potential. Our philosophy is simple: "Excellence as Standard" in all that we do. The school is housed in an impressive £34.6 million PFI funded building which opened in 2008. The state-of-the-art facilities offer a modern, flexible, technology-rich environment for teaching and learning making it one of the very best equipped schools in not only the region but the country. We have secured firm foundations for the school to grow and develop a bright future where teachers can teach and learners learn.



# Ethos, Vision and Values

**At Oasis Academy Brislington, everything we do is centred around the Oasis Ethos:**

**A passion to include everyone**

**A desire to treat everyone equally, respecting differences**

**A commitment to healthy and open relationships**

**A deep sense of hope that things can change and be transformed**

**A sense of perseverance to keep going for the long haul**

We are driven by a powerful ethos which aspires to treat everyone inclusively and recognises the importance of a holistic approach to education. As well as continuing to build a strong school and deliver a first-class education, it is also our desire to build an interconnected community, recognising that education needs to not exist in isolation from the needs of the whole person.

At Oasis Academy Brislington we aim to:

- Create a happy, stimulating, caring learning environment where risk taking and challenge is encouraged
- Awaken and nurture a love of learning that will last a lifetime and provide everyone with the skills to continue learning independently and collaboratively
- Enable everyone to reach the highest standard of which they are capable, academically and in other fields such as sport, arts and culture
- Encourage all learners to develop their own interests, passions, enthusiasms, creativity and individuality

- Help learners to understand and care about the world in which they live, and to believe in their ability and responsibility to change that world to make it better
- Empower learners to develop a strong sense of right and wrong, good and bad, equality and justice. Give them the inner strength to act according to these values
- Provide learners with the skills and understanding to live a healthy, successful life, physically, emotionally and spiritually
- Foster respect, tolerance and love for others, regardless of race, gender, religion or difference, within a framework of equality of opportunity and fairness
- Help learners to appreciate human achievements and aspirations and to believe in their own potential to attain great things
- Promote a feeling of pride and confidence in learners' identities; as individuals, as members of our academy, as part of the local community and as citizens of the world



## Academy Day

The formal academy day begins at 9.00am and ends at 3.10pm. Lessons are timetabled across five 60-minute sessions per day, with a daily 20 minute tutor session each afternoon. Our period 6 activity clubs run from 3.10pm – 4.10pm Monday to Thursday.

## Uniform

We believe that it is important for students to look smart. School uniform helps students to build a sense of identity and prepares them effectively for professional expectations in the world of work.

### Blazer

- Academy Blazer & Tie

### Trousers and Skirts

- Black, standard length trousers (No skinny fit, leggings or denim trousers will be permitted)
- Black skirts of an acceptable length (no shorter than 3cm above the knee, no tube (lycra) skirts will be permitted)

### Shoes

- Plain black leather (or faux leather) shoes with a black sole
- No trainers, canvas shoes, Vans, Ugg boots or high heels will be permitted



### School Shirt

- A white short or long-sleeved, button-up shirt with a structured collar

### Jewellery and General Appearance

- Hair bands and clips (no wider than 2cm)
- Natural hair colouring only, with no extreme hairstyles
- 1 small stud earring in each ear and a watch only
- Make-up should be minimal and natural in appearance
- Religious head dress in plain black or white only
- No facial piercings will be permitted

### PE Kit

- Academy PE polo shirt
- Academy shorts
- Academy fleece
- Additionally, navy or black tracksuit bottoms
- Black/emerald green sports socks

## SEND

The academy is committed to helping all students to flourish regardless of their specific needs. We believe that every person matters and it is our responsibility to do everything in our power to ensure that every student realises their potential.

If your child has specific needs that you would like to discuss in further detail please feel free to contact our Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO) Mrs J Newman at the academy. More information on our SEND offer can also be found on our website [www.oasisacademybrislington.org](http://www.oasisacademybrislington.org)

## Behaviour & Rewards

All students are expected to display behaviours which show a respect for their learning and the learning of others. This includes arriving for lessons on time and being equipped for learning. In class students are required to demonstrate positive learning attitudes and to allow others to learn free from disruption. Students who display positive learning behaviours will receive praise and recognition.

At Oasis Academy Brislington we recognise achievement in its broadest sense and reward academic attainment, progress, behaviour, effort and personal and social development. We actively seek to praise and reward 'excellence' wherever possible. Rewarding students and therefore positively reinforcing 'excellence' as standard across all aspects of their school life. The Brislington Charter Points can be exchanged for items in the academy shop which is open every Tuesday and Thursday break time.

By joining the Oasis family, we are also able to offer our young people the opportunity to have their successes recognised by our regional Bristol academies, and our national family.

## Absence Procedures

At Brislington we recognise that absences can be very disruptive to student learning and confidence in knowledge. If a child is absent from school, parents/carers should contact us on the first day of the absence, providing us with details of the reason for their absence. All absences are recorded as either authorised or unauthorised, it is therefore important that we receive accurate information from parent/carers with reasons for the student's absence. This information is used to determine whether the absence is authorised or unauthorised.

Where a student is absent from school and we have not received any verbal or written communication from the parent, then we initiate a first day contact process. Staff check all of the registers from 9.00am to 9.30am on a daily basis, to identify those students who are absent. There are occasions when we are unaware why the student is absent and we will contact the parent to check the reasons for the student's absence.

## Illness

When a student has an illness that means they will be away from school long term, the school will do all it can to send academic resources home, so that they can keep up with their school work.

## Addressing Attendance Concerns

The academy expects attendance of at least 95%.

It is the responsibility of the Principal and the academy council to support good attendance and to identify and address attendance concerns promptly. It is the responsibility of parents/carers to ensure their child attends school regularly and punctually and therefore where there are concerns regarding attendance parents are always informed of our concerns. Initially concerns about attendance are raised with parents via phone calls and/or letters which are sent home. Where a student's attendance record does not improve over a period of time then the academy will issue a penalty notice for unauthorised absence.

## The Academy Commitment to Equality

Equality and inclusion are at the heart of Oasis. We have a passion to include everyone and a deep desire to treat everyone equally. We accept others for who they are and respect differences. Our aim is to provide an excellent education for all our students. Our way of doing this is to work hard to improve students' attainment and the standards of teaching and learning continually.

At the same time, we also aim to meet the needs of the whole person and the whole community because we understand that the whole of life is education and that everyone who is part of a students' life shapes their understanding of the world. In this sense, every person matters.

# Teaching and Learning

## Curriculum Approach

We ensure that our curriculum is not only challenging, but flexible and relevant to ensure that every student is able to reach their potential and realise their dreams. We believe that, when given the right conditions to succeed, all of our students are capable of achieving remarkable success. Therefore we constantly review our curriculum provision, and work hard as a family to ensure that our offer serves the needs of our young people in an educational landscape that is constantly changing.

### Key Stage 3

Students follow a broad curriculum in the traditional subjects of English, Maths, Science, Humanities, Modern Foreign Languages, IT & Physical Education. In addition to these subjects, students learn Art, ICT, Design Technology, Music, and PSHE.

### Key Stage 4

Our students are given initial option choices for their education at the end of KS3, with further choices in Year 9. They are encouraged to choose subjects that they find rewarding and relevant to their aspirations.

Core subjects of Maths, English and Science involve 4 hours of contact time per week amongst subjects opted for by each student. Courses in PE and RE are also followed.

At the academy we are particularly proud of our English and Maths Mastery programmes.

“The Principal and Senior Leaders have a clear vision for the school and the community it serves.”

Ofsted, March 2018



## English Mastery

The English Mastery programme is underpinned by principles of cognitive science and was created in order to allow expert teachers and curriculum designers to research, plan and create an outstanding programme of study and teacher development.

Students receive, per week:

- 3 hours of literary heritage lessons
- 2 hours of grammar and writing lessons
- 1 hour of reading

Students who need extra support receive an extra 3 hours of Fresh Start phonics.

Our leaders are agreed that this puts subject passion and knowledge at the heart of English teaching, and allows teachers to focus less on what to teach and searching out resources, and more on how to teach it to maximise student engagement, learning and progress.

We began the programme at Oasis Academy Brislington in September 2017 and have finished our first year of teaching. The scheme is already having an impact, with our latest exam results showing that our students are set to achieve well above national average results in their GCSEs.

## Maths Mastery

We are proud to deliver the world-class Maths Mastery scheme of learning. This focuses on ensuring all students develop a strong conceptual understanding of the key mathematic principals and are able to solve mathematical problems in a variety of situations. We believe this is important in our modern society since almost all careers will require people to adapt and solve unfamiliar problems. Additionally, a strong mathematical grasp is essential to be a happy, confident and contributing member of society.

We ensure that in each of our maths lessons, our students are:

- Challenged to explain their thinking and answers
- Use drawings, counters, and connecting blocks to prove answers are correct
- Willing to have a go, and not worry about getting an answer wrong

By developing these skills and habits we believe that all our students will be able to apply their understanding of maths to totally new problems, to feel more confident in maths, and to enjoy maths.

**“Leaders have recently revised the curriculum to meet the needs of pupils more effectively. As a result, it is broad and balanced. At key stage 4, it offers pupils a good choice of vocational and academic subjects. The English and mathematics mastery programmes, recently introduced into the lower school, are improving pupils’ progress”**

Ofsted, 2018

## Careers Guidance

There has never been a time when career guidance has been as important for young people as it is today. There are more options for students to choose from than ever. Apprenticeships, traineeships and a vast variety of courses at college are a complex and confusing prospect.

We are proud of our highly effective careers programme which enables students throughout their time with us to explore future careers options. Careers fairs and talks, visits to work places and universities, enterprise activities organised by our business partners, business-to-student

mentoring, as well as 1:1 careers advice and guidance are just a few activities we offer as an entitlement to every student. At Oasis Brislington we do not just talk about careers; we give our students vast opportunities to experience working with employees from our partners. This in turn supports the development of vital employability skills such as teamwork, communication and time management, to name a few.



# Extra Curricular & Partnerships

## Extra-Curricular Clubs

Oasis Academy Brislington is PROUD to be able to offer a wide range of activities.

The Additional Curriculum Entitlement programme currently runs from 3.10pm to 4.10pm, Monday to Thursday and enables students to engage in a vast variety of clubs and Sports academies.

Some activities have a long standing tradition, whilst others are more recent initiatives like the Fitness club and Perfect Plate.

These are well attended, oversubscribed clubs which allow students to apply their academic knowledge in a practical way. Specific clubs such as Rugby Academy and Netball Academy have been developed to enable talented players to acquire specific skills. Staff from Bristol

Rugby and Bath Netball team coach students every week, providing great opportunities for students to work with professional coaches to further their skills.

Clubs such as homework club support students to complete all their assignments on time and to a high standard. In KS4 all subjects offer intervention sessions to help students understand difficult concepts and prepare them further for their exams. More revision is offered during holiday and Saturday sessions.



## Educational Partnerships

We currently have artists in residence, a chef in residence and house Bristol Opera. All the professionals afford our student cohorts learning experiences above those within our academic curriculum.

We also have a number of business partnerships with local and global companies such as OVO and KPMG. Both companies support our students in various ways. South Bristol Youth, a local charity, support many of our students through work place and university visits. The partnership with St Brendan's Sixth Form College has grown over the past few years which has resulted in many of our students making St Brendan's their Post-16 destination.



## Global Partnerships

Oasis is an international organisation which operates throughout the world, endeavouring to tackle social injustice in whatever form it manifests itself. Because of this, Oasis Academy Brislington is connected to projects at every corner of the globe and has a special link with Oasis Uganda.

## How to Apply

Oasis Academy Brislington is a non-selective academy open to students of all religious faiths and those of no faith.

If you are a parent/carer of a child in Year 6 and wish to apply for a place at our school for the following September you will need to complete the common application form and return it to the admissions section at Bristol City Council.

If you are seeking a place in any other year group, or for a Year 7 place post-September, you must contact the academy directly.

Full details on our admissions criteria are available on our website: [www.oasisacademybrislington.org](http://www.oasisacademybrislington.org)

Alternatively you can call us on **0117 377 2055**.

“Teachers and other staff in the school’s specialist provision care well for pupils who have complex SEN.”  
Ofsted, March 2018



# A Message from our Founder



When I started Oasis back in 1985, I had no idea it would grow into the wonderful family of charities that it has become today. In Oasis Community Learning, we are the country's second largest provider of academy schools, educating around 25,000 children and young people. Through Oasis Aquila Housing, we provide housing for vulnerable young people. With Oasis Community Partnerships we run social projects – from community farms and coffee houses to churches and children's centres – and much more besides. And we do this in communities as diverse as Gateshead in the North East to Bristol in the South West. So, the question is...why?

Not only do we believe your child should receive the very best formal education, but also that there is more to a healthy life and future than simply the knowledge they hold. Every one of us is a product of the community in which we live. That is why Oasis is passionate that every community served by one of our academies should be a happy, healthy place where every person is included and valued, and has the ability to thrive and achieve their full, God-given potential. That is why Oasis' vision not only aims to deliver outstanding education, but also to help build great local neighbourhoods.

We are motivated by our core Christian ethos which means that we believe every person – those of all faiths or none – are equally valuable and have a part to contribute in helping this vision become a reality. Helping a young person realise who they are meant to be is about more than simply the qualifications they get or the job they want; it's about how they see themselves and those around them. That's why Oasis' goal is to help create great communities where every young person achieves their best, respects themselves, values those around them and contributes to the good of all.

We look forward to welcoming you and your child to an Oasis academy in order to experience this for yourself.



**Steve Chalke, MBE**  
Oasis Founder



If you have a query regarding Oasis Academy Brislington please contact the Principal, Peter Knight through his PA, Sue Brain on [0117 377 2055](tel:01173772055) or email [sue.brain@oasisbrislington.org](mailto:sue.brain@oasisbrislington.org).

You can keep up-to-date with developments at Oasis Academy Brislington via our website [www.oasisacademybrislington.org](http://www.oasisacademybrislington.org)

[@OABrislington](https://twitter.com/OABrislington)

If you wish to know more about Oasis Community Learning – part of the Oasis group of charities – please contact:

The Oasis Centre, 75 Westminster Bridge Road, London SE1 7HS  
[www.oasiscommunitylearning.org](http://www.oasiscommunitylearning.org)

[@OasisAcademies](https://twitter.com/OasisAcademies)



**Oasis Academy Brislington**

Hungerford Road, Brislington, Bristol, BS4 5EY

Tel: 0117 377 2055

Email: [info@oasisbrislington.org](mailto:info@oasisbrislington.org)

 @OABrislington

[www.oasisacademybrislington.org](http://www.oasisacademybrislington.org)