

2nd September 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Welcome back to the start of the new academic year. I find myself writing my first newsletter of 2020/21 from a very different place to any other academic year. We have not seen many of our students for five months and in the case of Year 7, never. Students may have forgotten how the school day works and also need to know the 'new normal' within the academy which allows us to reopen in these extraordinary times. With this in mind staff will be working hard to re-establish, or in the case of Year 7, establish their relationships with students and support them at this vital time in their educational journey.

Welcome to new colleagues and students

I would like to offer a warm welcome to all new members of the Oasis Academy Brislington community. We welcome our Year 7 students and hope that they enjoy the activities and events planned for their induction into our school. This year we are also fortunate in welcoming a significant number of new colleagues to the staff:

- Alfie Cunningham - PE Teacher
- Alvaro Martinez Guimera - Science Teacher
- Madeleine Mcleod - Science Teacher
- Miranda Moore - Specialist Centre Teacher
- Eleanor White - English Teacher
- Kathryn Hughes - History Teacher
- Rachael Paton - Geography Teacher
- Benjamin Griffin - Computer Science Teacher
- Jordan Chandler - Music Teacher
- Megan Reynolds - Subject Leader- RPE
- Will Handsford - DT Teacher
- Kate Pritchard - Teach First MFL
- Danielle Miles - Teach First English
- Emma Tollet - Teach First MFL
- Amy Guerrini - Teach First Maths
- Imogen Foster – Teach First Geography
- Stephanie Gould - 360 Team Manager
- Ebony Chapman - 360 Team Manager

Various members of staff have new responsibilities and without listing them all I will mention the changes within the Leadership team: Miss Olschner (Best Teaching) joins the team on secondment for the year, Miss Pugh and Dr Goldberg have been appointed as Vice Principals (Best Culture and Best Curriculum). Mrs Barr has been appointed as Assistant Principal (Best Inclusion) and Mr James has moved into the role of Best Outcomes from Best Teaching.

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Our Student Charter

In light of the current pandemic we have added **Be Safe** to our student charter (Work Hard, Look Smart, Be Nice and Be Safe). **Be Safe** will form a significant part of the work we will do with students as they arrive back into the academy over the next three days. Our routines and procedures are there to keep staff and students safe throughout the day. If there are students who display behaviours that do not meet the expectations of these routines and procedures we will be contacting parents/carers in the first instance.

Be Safe

On the subject of staying safe and masks; if your child is unable to wear a mask due to an ongoing issue please could you contact their 360 Team Manager explaining the situation in order that we might provide the student with an exemption lanyard.

Can I remind parents/carers that we will not excepting visitors to the site without an appointment. When attending the appointment parents/carers will be required to wear a disposable mask provided by the academy. If you plan to drop or collect your child from school please remain in your vehicle and allow your child to come to you. This will help maintain the bubbles that we have established at the academy.

Work Hard

During this term staff will be working hard on establishing what knowledge students have gained from the online lessons provided during lock down, as well as building on this knowledge to ensure that their learning journey continues. We will use this information to identify students who didn't engage in the learning during lockdown and then look to fill these knowledge gaps through additional learning sessions after school.

We have also had to introduce a more flexible timetable to create a staggered start and finish to the academy day. This timetable was created through the introduction of 'blended learning lessons' every day. Given the expectation that students will complete half of this lesson at home we have made the decision to postpone homework until Week 3 so that we can work with students on the quality of the home learning part of these lessons.

Look Smart

We are currently aware that our uniform supplier (blazers, ties and PE kit) is having difficulty meeting online orders made over the summer in time for the start of term. If your child is in the position of not having full uniform, as a result of this issue, then please contact your child's 360 Team Manager so that we can make allowances for them until the orders arrive.

This time of year is always exciting as we stand poised on the threshold of another year of academic endeavour, challenges and achievements. We look forward to working with you and your children, to make it another successful and satisfying year at Oasis Academy Brislington.

Kind Regards,



Peter Knight
Principal