

22<sup>nd</sup> October 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **Term reflections**

It has been a long term and we have accomplished a lot and I thank all families for the support given.

We have seen improvement in uniform and appearance, with very few mobile phones being seen in the academy which has helped the quality of the teaching and meant there are not the disruptions we have experienced.

Year 7 have settled very well at the Sheerness campus. It was a particular highlight to lead their assembly with students being particularly attentive and so smartly dressed. Also, we have had a very successful Open Evening with many guest families commenting on the enthusiasm of staff and how well the year 7 students spoke about their first seven weeks as students of the Academy. Our year 11 students are becoming very focused in their lessons and working hard towards their mock examinations, which start in the second week of term; we wish them well.

The Sheppey rewards event this term were a film and popcorn; this was very well received and a fun time for students who are doing the right things all of the time.

### **Winter readiness**

As the winter arrives and temperatures are getting colder, it is only right that students have a warm waterproof coat to protect them during break and lunch, together with their journey to and from the academy.

- A sensible warm and waterproof outdoor coat - No hoodies must be worn; these will be confiscated immediately. The same applies to caps

Please can I draw your attention to the fact that Hoodies are not allowed on site and will be confiscated if seen .

**Executive Principal – Mr A Booth**

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Tel. 01795 873 591

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Not allowed



Allowed

### Equipment

As you will agree, all students being 'ready to learn' is pivotal for successful teaching and learning to take place. Unfortunately, it has been noticed many students are not ready for lessons as they do not have the correct equipment, causing disruption and delay to valuable teaching time. Our expectations of all learners is to be fully and effectively prepared for all lessons and so we ask for all young people to have a well-equipped pencil case to ensure learning opportunities and learning time are not lost.

We do not have a strict or exhaustive pencil case contents list, however all learners should be effectively equipped with the following items:

- Two or three plain black writing pens
- One or two drawing HB equivalent pencils
- Ruler
- Eraser/Rubber
- Green pen for improvements to marked work
- Scientific calculator
- A small number of colouring pencils
- School bag, waterproof, large enough to hold an Ipad and A4 exercise books and which can be securely fastened (no plastic drawstring bags)

### A Booth

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### **New Horizons**

As you are aware, all students will be given an iPad provided the Home User Agreement has been signed by parents/carers and returned. The purpose of this is to enhance learning and support students with access to resources for homework and independent learning. Those with an iPad will need to ensure it is brought into the academy every day, fully charged. Consequently, the need for an appropriate school bag is even more important and we do require all students to have one. Please ensure this is the case for your son/daughter ahead of the start of the new term.

As these are loaned school devices to be used for educational purposes, we know you will support us with ensuring students use the iPad appropriately. More information regarding the Horizons project and how you can support your child with E-safety can be found here: <https://www.oasiscommunitylearning.org/education/oasis-horizons> .

### **Attendance**

We all need to work hard on attendance as it is not where it should be as an academy. Please can you do all you can to send your son/daughter to the academy every day, as valuable learning is not able to take place if they are not in the academy .We will begin to make home visits as new members of the academy attendance team will be starting on November 1<sup>st</sup>. to assist in any difficulties that might be taking place. If you wish to have a conversation about your son/daughter's attendance, then please do contact the relevant Head of Year who will try and support you .

### **Community hub**

Congratulations to Lyn Baseley and her student Eco Team for being awarded The Eco Schools Green Flag for the Academy. The Academy has delivered 13,000 food parcels to families in the last 19 months.

The Sheppey Community Support Bus will be on the road delivering food and advice for families who are members from November. There is more information on [admin@sheppeysupportbus.org](mailto:admin@sheppeysupportbus.org) .

Finally, well done to our students for providing Sunday afternoon teas right across the island, including Silver Sunday, on four occasions this term.

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### **Regional Director update**

Our current Regional Director for Secondary Academies, Ms Louise Lee, will be taking a period of maternity leave within the next few weeks.

Oasis are delighted to have appointed Mr John Bradshaw who will cover the regional leadership in Ms Lee's absence. Mr Bradshaw has over 40 years of experience in education, most recently as an Executive Principal at the London East Alternative Provision in Tower Hamlets. Mr Bradshaw has started in post this week to enable handover time before Ms Lee goes on leave.

We look forward to welcoming Mr Bradshaw into the Oasis family and working with him to ensure that the London and South East region continues thrive and deliver "Exceptional education at the heart of the community." We also look forward to welcoming back Ms Lee in due course.

### **Nasal Flu Immunisation and Covid-19 Vaccination**

Earlier this week, letters were issued from Kent Community Health regarding the **nasal flu immunisation** for all years 7-11 and the **Covid-19 vaccination** being offered to all children aged 12 to 15 years, with accompanying information on the Covid-19 vaccination.

The links to provide consent for each were not possible to access for all. We reattach updated links below in order for you to access:

Nasal flu vaccination, please complete the online consent form before 3rd November 2021 - <https://childconsent.co.uk/kchft>

Covid-19 vaccination, please complete the online consent form by end of school day 4<sup>th</sup> November 2021 - <https://childconsent.co.uk/kchft>

If you have any questions, please email directly to [kentchft.enquiries4covid19schools@nhs.net](mailto:kentchft.enquiries4covid19schools@nhs.net)

### **Lateral Flow Testing**

Thank you for your continued support with Covid-19 home testing. We know how important it is for you to be able to send your children to school.

Lateral Flow testing should continue and results reported twice a week, at home, throughout the October half-term school holiday and take a test before returning to school/college. All results should be reported, even if your result is negative or void.

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Students were provided with home test kits in September when they undertook lateral flow testing upon returning to school. We will provide further kits upon the new term getting underway to bring home with them. Testing is free of charge. If you do require more home testing kits to continue testing over half term, you can also order more online through gov.uk or collect from your local pharmacy.

By testing your child twice a week over half term, you will help us to reduce transmission of Coronavirus, keep our students in school and ensure the Academy remains open to minimise disruption to students' education and to you and your household.

### **Communication**

To ensure communication is delivered to correct email addresses and mobile contacts, to keep you informed, if any of your contact detail alter at any time, please email [office@oasisisleofsheppey.org](mailto:office@oasisisleofsheppey.org) to advise of the update - please include your child's name and year group/class in the subject title. Alternatively, if you have My Child At School, you can submit any updates via the MCAS app .

### **Safeguarding, Health and Safety**

The introduction of no vehicular access during the academy day on both campuses is underway and we are appreciative of everyone's efforts in following the new procedures.

To recap, the large green automatic gates to both campuses will remain closed from 8.00am until 15:00.

Parents/Carers collecting or dropping off students at the **Minster** campus will need to use the lower car park or drop off area. If you have an appointment or are collecting a student, then press the intercom on the green access gate whereby you will "buzzed" through to walk to main reception where staff will be able to help.

Parents/Carers collecting or dropping off students at the **Sheerness** campus will need to use the drop off areas around the turning circle in the access road directly outside the main academy site. If you have an appointment or are collecting a student, please use the intercom on the main pedestrian access gate, whereby you will "buzzed" through to walk to main reception where staff will be able to help.

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For students with long/short term medical or disability reason, we will need to know which campus you require access to, your named driver car registration and reason for the need to drive up as near to reception. Please email these to [Jo.gass@oasisisleofsheppey.org](mailto:Jo.gass@oasisisleofsheppey.org).

We wish you a restful half term break and look forward to welcoming back our students next term, starting on Monday, 1st November.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A Booth", is positioned below the "Yours sincerely," text.

**Mr A Booth**  
Executive Principal

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