



# Oasis Academy: Isle of Sheppey **Prospectus**



# A message from our Executive Principal

## A very warm welcome to Oasis Academy Isle of Sheppey



**Mr A Booth**

Executive Principal,  
Oasis Academy Isle  
of Sheppey

Welcome to the Oasis Academy Isle of Sheppey prospectus. I am delighted that you are considering us as the provider for your child's education.

Our expectations of students are consistently high in all aspects of school life, whether that is through learning, relationship building or personal development. We expect exceptional conduct, behaviour and care for everyone so that our academy family can be happy, can work hard in all lessons and can take part in a wide range of experiences throughout these important years of development.

A dedicated team of staff provide quality teaching and learning opportunities for all students across a wide range of subjects. We are an academy that provides all young people with the opportunities, guidance, and support to excel, whatever their chosen pathways may be. It is our ambition that all students make exceptional progress from their starting point in a safe and happy learning environment and leave confident that they will succeed in their life after school.

We are passionate about the Isle of Sheppey. We understand and value the community we are proud to be a part of. We work closely with our community through student-led initiatives, strengthening that sense of pride for the island and the transformation our students can bring. We have a strong set of values and this helps create a culture that we are all delighted to be part of.

We are ambitious and we endeavour to provide an excellent educational experience to all young people as they grow, flourish and develop into successful and ambitious students who are ready at the end of their time with us to lead independent, successful and prosperous lives into the 21st Century.



## Your Academy of Choice

Oasis Academy Isle of Sheppey benefits from two large, modern campuses in Minster and Sheerness. Both are serviced by good public transport connections and accessible on foot or by car.

Our multi-million pound buildings boast an unparalleled range of facilities and opportunities for all students in our Secondary and Sixth Form phases. No matter which subjects our young people choose to progress with, vocational or academic, we have the right settings and resources to give them the support they need to succeed and to achieve their ambitions.

Our facilities include a 250-seat theatre, auditorium, indoor and outdoor sports facilities – including floodlit 3G astroturf, athletics tracks and cricket nets – as well as an engineering and construction centre, design and technology workshops, hair and beauty salon and motor vehicles workshop.

During evenings, at weekends and holidays, we facilitate a programme of community clubs for all ages.



## The Oasis Entitlement

All of our students enjoy the Oasis Entitlement, a guaranteed set of opportunities during their time at the academy:

- Reading strategies so that every student becomes a fluent reader
- Access to online learning
- Access to high quality mental health support
- Be a student leader or mentor
- Be part of a school production
- Be part of a school team
- Play a musical instrument
- Play an active part in a Hub project
- Attend a residential trip
- Visit the theatre, an art gallery and a museum
- Visit universities and places of work

## Our Values

Values that are lived and breathed create a culture and at the academy we have a set of values that we think will hold fast for all students.

**S**ensible  
**H**ardworking  
**E**mpathetic  
**P**olite  
**P**roud  
**E**nthusiastic  
**Y**oung people

We have an unwavering belief in inclusion; every student should have the opportunity to realise and reach their potential, regardless of their background. You will often see the Oasis 'Circle of Inclusion' throughout the academy to symbolise this belief.

We believe in community. We recognise that we are stronger together and therefore value collaboration. We develop an understanding and tolerance of each other through knowledge, mutual respect, believing the best of each other and forgiveness. We work as a community, supporting our own students, families and staff in everything we do.







# Our Curriculum

Happy, safe and stimulating learning



## Our Vision

**Together** we will create **outstanding, inspirational** education in a vibrant, **inclusive** environment that will transform the learning and lives of those we serve.

**Together** we will **unlock** and **celebrate** the **unique** and **limitless** potential of every individual, to lay the foundations for a successful and fulfilling **future**.

**Together** we will build the school of choice where all feel **pride** in **belonging** to a happy, caring **family**; the **heart** of our community.

## Our Oasis, Our Sheppey.

## Holistic Education

Our strong ethos of inclusion and our year group based system of pastoral care both reinforce our commitment to nurturing and developing the 'whole' child. Each year, students are expected and encouraged to excel academically and are given opportunities to develop the characteristics and social skills needed to become mature, caring and responsible citizens. We encourage all students to 'be a host, not a guest'; to serve each other, contribute to the life of the academy and the wider community, enriching their own, and others' lives. Staff have the highest expectations and aspirations for all our students, treating them with respect and building relationships that will get the very best out of them. Students' appearance and behaviour is expected to match our high standards at all times. We celebrate individual talents and abilities, developing confident, independent students who are committed to life-long learning.

The curriculum is fundamental to students' learning and experience in school, helping them to achieve highly. Long after our students leave the academy, we want them to fondly remember the experiences that made a difference to their lives and build on the knowledge, skills and understanding that they acquired with us. Our curriculum includes timetabled lessons, impartial careers advice and guidance, enrichment opportunities and daily tutor sessions. It is designed to provide all students with pathways that extends and challenges their learning enabling them to confidently access the aspirational careers they aim for.

We view our curriculum as either a five or seven-year journey, from Year 7 to Year 11, or Year 7 to Year 13. We want to instil a love of learning in our young people, and whilst we hope they continue their education with us through to our Sixth Form, we understand that some of our students will be keen to enter the world of work after GCSEs. With that in mind, it is our promise that we equip and support everyone through their passions on their journey into adulthood. Some students will have an eight-year journey with us if they choose to pursue our foundation sixth form pathway. Our curriculum is accessible to all students, as our pastoral, teaching and welfare teams are experts at supporting individuals of all needs through their learning.

At Key stage 3 (Years 7,8,9) students study English, Maths, Science, Geography, History, PSHE (including RE), Modern Foreign Languages, Creative and Performing Arts, Food Technology and Physical Education.

Every student will have the opportunity to go on trips or receive external visitors to enrich their learning as part of the Oasis entitlement. All students will be able, and are encouraged, to participate fully in the clubs and activities on offer.

During Year 9, students receive advice and guidance to support their decision making as they decide which course pathways to pursue for Key Stage 4 to GCSE or equivalent level.

Throughout their time with us, our students will receive regular impartial careers advice and guidance, including opportunities to explore career pathways. During Year 11, students begin to make decisions about whether they will complete their formal education with us or seek employment or training/education opportunities elsewhere. By March of Year 11, students make their provisional decisions about which subjects they will continue through to the age of 18, studying for A level and/or BTEC qualifications. Some students choose to start sixth form with an additional foundation year, during which they refine the knowledge, understanding and skills needed to be successful at A level.

For our young people who wish to stay with us for sixth form, selections from the subjects offered in Years 7 to 11 are available with the addition of Sociology, Psychology and Law. Our sixth form curriculum is designed to build on students' prior learning and enable students in Year 7 to think about their future with a clear view and suite of qualifications that they could leave our academy with aged 18.



# Secondary Studies

Years 7-11

## Teaching and Learning

Great teaching and learning is at the centre of everything we do. We are dedicated to having a transformative effect on the lives of our young people and have a highly skilled body of teaching and support staff who are always willing to 'go the extra mile' for our learners. We embrace a culture of growth within our staff body with regular coaching and development sessions to ensure the most up to date research is used to further improve the experiences and impact on all students.

We are committed to ensuring that all pupils get the very best academic start in life, so that they leave the academy fully prepared for their next step when they leave us. Our Key Stage 3 curriculum is completed in Years 7, 8 and 9 before students select their Key Stage 4 options. This follows a review of students' strengths, needs and interests to find the most suitable matches. We offer a bespoke programme of support in Year 11 to support UCAS applications for post-16 education; this includes taster sessions in our own, well-regarded sixth form.

Literacy is at the core of what we do at Key Stage 3. Any student with a reading age significantly below their chronological age receives quick intervention to support them with a suitable reading recovery programme. Oracy is also promoted through the curriculum, with the intention of supporting students with building confidence and become successful young people who are able to articulate professionally. This also includes digital literacy; being able to use IT well is pivotal to having a successful career in the modern world.

## Oasis Horizons

With Oasis Horizons, every student who joins the Oasis Academy Isle of Sheppey family will receive their very own iPad for the duration of their time with us. We want to give our young people equality in their opportunity for learning, therefore the iPad will be theirs to use at school and at home.

Filled with educational apps, the iPad is used in lessons for exploration of learning, class quizzes and teamwork projects. They are a fantastic teaching tool for our staff to keep on top of new resources, student understanding and preparing our students for a future working with digital technologies.

The iPad have strict e-safety measures in place to keep every child safe online, both at the academy and at home, alongside lock and tracking features should the device go missing.

We're sure you'll have lots of questions about this, so feel free to visit our website to find out more. In essence, our vision for teaching and learning is to nurture and support all young people so they are able to thrive.

## Transitioning into Secondary School

Year 6 transition is smoothly handled by a dedicated team which includes our Pastoral and Year Leaders, so guidance and support on an individual basis is there from day one. Issues or concerns from primary school are swiftly dealt with. We operate a programme of events to support a stress-free transition, where children transferring to us from primary schools are invited to a taster session at the academy in July. They will have opportunities to meet their teachers, start to make new friends and experience academy life and routines for themselves. Children with SEND are supported further by our SENDCO with further visits to ensure any anxieties are erased before September.



## Character Competence and Community

At Oasis Academy Isle of Sheppey we strongly encourage students to contribute to the life of the academy and the wider community.

We regularly offer the opportunity for our students to develop programmes to support their communities or to be a part of longer standing projects in and out of the academy. We have worked with the University of Kent and Sheerness Dockyard Church on historical research and are proud of the partnerships that continue to grow. Furthermore, we have very close working relationships with the NHS, Sheppey Matters, The Salvation Army, Morrisons, Big Local Eastern Sheppey, local councils, the Hythe Dementia Forum and The Royal British Legion. Working with these organisations provides our students opportunities to develop their skills and understanding, grow in confidence, show empathy and support as well as giving them experiences to remember for a lifetime.

Our students run a multi award winning Dementia and Community Café supporting local people who live with dementia, those who know and support them, lonely people within the community and anyone else who wishes to attend. The café raises awareness of what it is like to live with dementia and loneliness, offers social support and brings together the old, the young and those in between in an outstanding piece of intergenerational work. The café has won several accolades including the National Youth Organisation of the Year in the under 25 Category of the Alzheimer's Society National Awards, the Queen's Commonwealth Trust Award and recognition at the prestigious

Goldsmith's Company Community Award. The café has featured on Songs of Praise in an episode called "Love Thy Neighbour" and has inspired and supported other schools and organisations to become dementia friendly. The students involved have all grown enormously in their understanding of others, confidence and in their ability to think for themselves and make decisions.

The academy is home to the Sheppey Community Development Forum, an organisation which gives people from the Sheppey community and beyond the chance to discuss local issues important to them. This group has been instrumental in setting up the Leas Parkrun every Saturday morning and is the birthplace of the Sheppey Support Bus, a community support initiative which operates across the Island with a social supermarket on the lower deck and an advice centre upstairs. This is a wonderful multi-agency project supported by Travelmasters and local councils.

The academy is one of the first in the country to become a Peace Fields School. Our school playing fields are twinned with the Peace Village and Flanders Peace Field in Mesen, Belgium. This is linked to the Christmas Truce of 1914 and once a year we hold an event to commemorate this. The academy joined seven other schools in creating a Prayer Space in St Paul's Cathedral, London, based around student artwork and this was in place for six months.

We celebrate individual talents and abilities, developing confident, independent students who enjoy learning. From choosing their individual pathways in Year 8 to Key Stages 4 and 5 where students will follow guided pathways to success. Our six-week assessment cycle and personalised provision ensures that students become competent learners, working at the correct level for their own progression. Staff will consult closely with students and parents throughout their time with us to ensure students choose the correct mix of subjects suited to their ability and Post 16 aspirations, through a carefully balanced curriculum.





## Behaviour and Rewards at Sheppey

We strongly believe that all young people excel when they are happy and given the opportunities to show and develop the best version of themselves. The rewards systems at the academy gives students the chance to show their growth, development and success.

**SHEPPEY** Points are rewarded to students who show that they have been **Sensible**, **Hard working**, displayed **Empathy**, have been **Polite** to others, **Proud** of their work and achievements and are **Enthusiastic Young People** both in and out of the classroom.

**SHEPPEY** Points awarded to students go on to inform weekly, bi-termly, termly and annual rewards and accolade badges, including student celebrations in assemblies.

We strive to ensure that all students feel safe to work hard and truly develop themselves. We expect our students to embody our Sheppey Values at all times as we believe that these fundamental aspects develop character and will help us all to excel. Students are expected to come to school regularly, be punctual and prepared to learn with the correct learning equipment at all times.

## Our Uniform

Our students are proud to be a part of the Oasis Academy Isle of Sheppey family and wear their uniform with confidence.

- Black blazer with academy badge
- White, long-sleeved, collared shirt
- Academy tie
- Black, tailored trousers (no jeans, leggings/ jeggings or 'skinny' trousers). Girls may wear a plain, black, knee-length skirt (non-stretch material)
- Black, formal shoes which can be polished
- All students must have a strong, waterproof bag which can be securely fastened and is large enough to hold text and exercise books, their iPad and PE kit.

## PE Kit

Blue, academy sports shirt and sports shorts.

Optional uniform and sports kit items are also available and details can be found on our website.







# Sixth Form Studies



## Applications

Oasis Academy Isle of Sheppey is a non-selective school open to students of all religious faiths and those of no faith.

If you are a parent or carer of a child in Year 6 and wish to apply for a place at Oasis Academy Isle of Sheppey for the following September, you will need to complete the common application form and return it to the admissions department at Kent County 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 and how places will be allocated for Year 7 are available on our website:

**[www.oasisacademyisleofsheppey.org](http://www.oasisacademyisleofsheppey.org)**

Alternatively, you can call our Admissions Officer on **01795 873591**.

## Testimonials

**“It is a privilege to come here because you get treated with respect.”**

Year 7 student

**“My teachers are really supportive and I feel I have a chance at having an amazing future.”**

Year 8 student

**“Oasis Academy Isle of Sheppey gave me the opportunity of a lifetime to perform with professional dancers at Disneyland Paris. It was a magical experience and I had the best time of my life!”**

Year 9 Dance student

**“It is always a joy for me to attend the Oasis Academy Dementia Café. All students are enthusiastic and remind and reinforce for me the excellent values and ethos you instil in them as they support this sensitive issue. I am always impressed how understanding and professional your students are and, having had the privilege of supporting the café since its start, I know these are not simply a carefully selected group of students but a valuable example of excellence in terms of this intergenerational project.”**

Community Liaison Officer,  
Kent County Council

## Teaching and Learning

Exceptional teaching and learning is at the forefront of all that we do in our Sixth Form. In fact, during a visit, Ofsted noted that our teaching and learning “is a real strength of the school.” Our dedicated teaching staff ensure that students not only make good and ever-improving progress in both academic and vocational subjects, but that they also enjoy their academic life and learning environment as they move through the Sixth Form.

As part of Oasis Academy Isle of Sheppey’s Sixth Form, students are able to undertake work experience with local employers and contribute to community projects, gaining invaluable skills as they prepare for their final A Level examinations and beyond.

## Career Guidance and Mentoring

In today’s modern world, it is no longer simply a question of ‘which job?’, ‘what to study?’ or ‘where to study?’ Students need to be given the tools to understand themselves better. They need to know what they are capable of and what makes them tick. Only when we start to comprehend our own strengths, weaknesses, motivations and aptitudes, can we start to navigate through the ever-increasing array of choices now available.

At Oasis Academy Isle of Sheppey, we pride ourselves on our devoted team of Sixth Form staff who work tirelessly to ensure our students feel supported and mentored into making the very best decisions for their life after Sixth Form.

Our Sixth Form Mentors and full time Careers Advisor ensure students are kept fully updated of all opportunities available to them. They provide advice and guidance on the application process for Further Education as well as information on events, such as university open days, apprenticeships and UCAS Fairs.

All students will take part in planning and researching future pathways. This is embedded as part of the Mentoring Programme in Term 1 and reviewed again in Term 4 to check on progress and any alternative plans.

Specialist careers advice and guidance is available by appointment and we encourage students to apply for a wide range of opportunities and experiences that will stimulate and enrich their learning.





## Life in the Sixth Form

### The Sixth Form Day

The academy day begins at 8.30am and ends at 3.00pm. Small group tuition ensures that subject specialists deliver high-quality lessons and individual support. Lessons are timetabled across five one-hour sessions per day. All students attend a half hour tutor session each day and have access to designated learning zones that are available for private study throughout the academy day.

### Extending your Learning

Student support and intervention is available as part of our extended academy day so that all students can initiate and seek bespoke teacher support. This session may also be directed by teachers to ensure student progression is in line with expectations. We offer a range of student enrichment opportunities, and support our student leaders in new initiatives.

Many activities, such as the Duke of Edinburgh Award, equip students with skills and expertise to enhance their CVs and UCAS applications. Students also take part in a range of fundraising and charitable activities, looking to help those near home and overseas. Our Sixth Formers are role models for younger students and they assist in the running of the academy in a variety of ways.

## Pastoral Care

Our pastoral care is embedded throughout the Sixth Form Team. We all take responsibility for the health, well-being and academic progress of our students by building positive and meaningful relationships with students in our care. All students receive tuition in life-skills such as personal financial management, health, well-being and nutrition to help them prepare for independent living.

## Student Leadership

Student leadership is important to us and we are always looking for students who want to be leaders in the academy and act as superb ambassadors in the community. Oasis Academy Isle of Sheppey Sixth Form students have an excellent record of volunteering and are highly valued and respected by local organisations with whom they have developed excellent relationships.

Student leaders are involved in organising social events, fundraising activities, and representing the views of the Sixth Form to senior staff and the Hub Council. All Sixth Form members are role models for younger year groups and lead clubs and activities at break times. We want every one of our students to feel empowered and heard, and offer many opportunities to get involved in academy life.

Our aim is to develop our student leadership team so that its members can assist in the long term, strategic planning of our expanding and successful Sixth Form.







### Our Dress Code

Sixth Form students are required to dress in a business-style manner with clothes suitable for an office or workplace environment. Young men are required to wear smart trousers, a shirt and jacket. Young women should wear a smart skirt or trousers with a blouse and jumper or cardigan.

## Admissions

Our Sixth Form has capacity for a total of 250 students. 125 places overall will be available in Year 12.

To determine eligibility for admission, please see our website for specific criteria in relation to minimum entrance requirements for Year 12, based on GCSE grades or other measures of prior attainment. The criteria will be the same for internal and external applicants.

Students failing to meet the grades for their preferred course option will be offered alternative courses if available. Students already on the academy roll are entitled to transfer to Year 12 if they meet the published standards of entry.

Full details on our admissions criteria and an application form are available on our website:  
[www.oasisacademyisleofsheppey.org](http://www.oasisacademyisleofsheppey.org)

# Academy Opportunities and Partnerships

### Enrichment and Extra-Curricular Activities

We run a full programme of enrichment opportunities not only to enhance learning but also to enable students to pursue deeper learning in areas they are passionate about, to develop particular skills and interests and to enjoy new and exciting opportunities and experiences.

The Arts are extremely popular, with regular visits to the theatre and musical recitals. Weekly clubs in drama, dance, music and art are organised with opportunities for students to showcase their talents in annual productions and performances. Competitive sport is encouraged with teams in all year groups for football, basketball, netball and cricket. Students are also able to participate in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme to develop life skills as well as enhance their CV.

### Educational Trips

Our excellent location means we make full use of all that the surrounding community has to offer. We offer regular trips to universities to develop the aspiration within our students to reach their full potential.

### Oasis Global Partnerships

Oasis works in 11 countries across the world, delivering a range of services in each. Each Oasis academy is partnered with one of the 10 other countries in which Oasis works and we regularly share learning and experiences, carry out awareness drives and participate in fundraising.

### Hub

Our academy sits within a wider Oasis community 'Hub' and the vision of the academy is to create both an outstanding academy and a community Hub. The aim is for our community to be able to access a range of services, food banks, adult learning programmes, healthy living advice and activities, sports facilities and out-of-hours youth activities.

We are an academy that works with, in and for our community, and the community continues to become increasingly proud of us.



## A Message from our CEO

I am delighted that you and your family are interested in becoming part of Oasis Academy Isle of Sheppey.

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 family potentially becoming part of Oasis, in the knowledge that we will work in partnership with you to ensure your children become confident learners ready to fulfil their aspirations in life.

Best wishes,



**John Murphy**

Chief Executive Officer,  
Oasis Community Learning



## 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





**Oasis Academy Isle of Sheppey**

**West Campus:**

Marine Parade, Sheerness  
Kent, ME12 2BE

**East Campus:**

Minster Road, Minster-on-Sea  
Kent, ME12 3JQ

 **Oasis Academy Isle of Sheppey**

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



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

 **@OasisAcademies**

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