



Principal's

UPDATE

Monday 27th February 2023

Dear parent

Welcome to the first Principal's update for Spring term 2. It has been a busy start to the term especially for Year 11 who are in the last stages of completing their mock exams. Their behaviour and attitude towards this important preparation for the final GCSEs has been commendable. Well done year 11! This term will see significant site development including the start of the new Sports Hall and reception area at the front of the school. We will also see the continuation of the window replacement programme, most which were originally installed in the 1950s. We have also seen a growing demand for external trips and educational experiences and will be adding further opportunities in the coming weeks.

Industrial Action by the National Education Union (NEU)

As I promised in my previous communication, on Friday 27th February, I am now in a position to confirm the effect of the industrial action on Oasis Academy Sholing. The strike is happening because of a national dispute between the unions and the government over teachers' pay, and not because of any issues at our academy.

I am sorry to inform you that Oasis Academy Sholing will be partially closed on Thursday 2nd March.

We remain committed to providing a safe and secure environment for our students, and do not consider this to be possible with the staff we have available. At present the school will be opened for vulnerable students and those with an EHCP only. There will be on site provision for lunch as normal. Sodexo, our catering provider, has confirmed that there will lunch bags available for collection from the school site for those in receipt of free school meals from 11am-1pm.

I am sorry that you will have to make alternative arrangements for your child and that they will experience disruption to their education.

If you have any questions, please contact Julie Hughdie, Operations Manager via julie.hughdie@oasissholing.org

Site Development

As part of our ongoing site development there is a planned refurbishment of all toilet blocks on the academy site. I am pleased to announce that the Creative Art block toilets are now refurbished and the next development will be the main block girl's toilets as part of the main Sports Hall development in the same style as our open access "orange" toilet area.



Tik Tok social media

There is currently a national Tik Tok campaign to encourage students to lead protests in schools and cause maximum disruption during a school day. Could I ask for your support in discussing with your child the concerns around social media usage and manipulation. We benefit at our academy having a student voice via the Student Parliament and tutor representatives and it is important that we continue to use this as a legitimate area for raising any concerns.

World Book Day Friday 3rd March 2023

We are very excited to share with you our plans for World Book Day, 2023!

This year, World Book Day will be celebrated at Oasis Academy Sholing on **Friday 3rd March, 2023**, and we have arranged lots of exciting activities for the students.

In true Oasis Sholing style, we have many celebrations occurring on the day, including a big wide game, whereby the students will have to find all the teachers who have dressed up as a literary character, and obtain their signature. Upon successful procurement of the signatures, the students may take their cards to Mrs Ridley for a reward.

Tutors will be sharing their favourite books with students in tutor time, and the students will be invited in turn to recommend their own. We also have various literary related games for tutor time to help engage the students with books they have and are yet to read. A reminder that the day will be non-school uniform and donations for the Hub Food Bank including sanitary items will be welcomed.

INSET day Monday 6th March 2023

A reminder that there is an **INSET day on Monday 6th March** which will include a focussed and robust Trust GCSE moderation programme, an increase in staff first aid trained and a focussed reading strategy ready to launch on the 7th March. A key time for staff development to ensure your child is fully supported in their journey through the school.

Lockdown alarm

A big thank you to parents who supported the school in explaining the reasons why schools need a lock-down alarm and rehearsal. We are required to carry out a rehearsal of our lockdown alarm being sounded with our staff and students. The students were extremely focussed, and the rehearsal was initiated without incident during the week beginning 23rd January.

Initial Teacher Training (PGCE)

Are you interested in training to become a qualified teacher? We regularly offer training places through our partnership with the University of Southampton Education School. Find out more by contacting the university ITTAdmissions@soton.ac.uk , visiting their webpages www.southampton.ac.uk/learntoteach , or coming to an Open Evening at the university <https://www.southampton.ac.uk/education/open-evenings.page>

Best wishes