



# Oasis Academy Fir Vale

## Prospectus 2020





## A warm welcome to Oasis Academy Fir Vale



Helen Round  
Principal,  
Oasis Academy  
Fir Vale

I am delighted to welcome you to Oasis Academy Fir Vale.

At Oasis Academy Fir Vale we believe that children learn best when they have opportunities to talk, play, explore, work together, ask questions and practise their developing skills.

We believe in a curriculum that gives children the chance to learn language and new skills through real life and practical experiences.

We believe partnerships with families and the community are really important to make sure children are safe, happy and that every child has the opportunity to reach their potential.

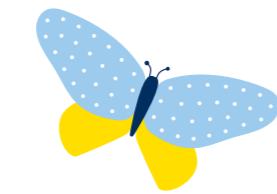
You will often see me at the gate before school starts. If you would like a quick word or just want to say hello, please don't hesitate to do so.

### At Oasis Fir Vale we want our children to:

- Be happy
- Have friends
- Be able to manage their feelings and emotions
- Be polite, respectful and honest
- Understand how to keep themselves safe and healthy
- Be independent and know when to ask for help
- Be confident and resilient
- Celebrate diversity
- Be kind and show compassion
- Believe in themselves
- Make great progress and be proud of their achievements



## About the academy



# Beginning a great journey together



Here at Oasis Academy Fir Vale, we are an all-inclusive academy based in the Fir Vale area of Sheffield.

We are an academy dedicated to helping our young people reach their potential from the moment they join us, either at Nursery or Reception, through to the day they leave in year 6.

We are a two-form entry academy, with specialist teaching staff, all working as a strong network of educators to provide an engaging, enriching curriculum at all levels of age and ability.

We are one family with one shared goal – to achieve, succeed and thrive together.

### Facilities

To support our teachers, we have state-of-the-art facilities set up in every classroom and breakout learning spaces. Our lessons are interactive, so classrooms are well stocked with items for imaginative play, touchscreen whiteboards, reading areas, and iPads – not to mention our nature oriented outdoor learning spaces!

We care about all subjects here at Oasis Academy Fir Vale, including the arts and sports. Our academy is fully equipped for art and design and a wide range of sports for all seasons.



### Our Ethos

Everything within Oasis is framed by our ethos.

Our ethos is rooted in what we believe and who we are. Grounded in our story, it is an expression of our character; a set of values that inform and provide the lens on everything we do.

- A passion to include
- A desire to treat people equally respecting differences
- A commitment to healthy, 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

It is these ethos values that we want to be known for and to live by. The values themselves are inspired by the life, message and example of Jesus but we make it clear that we will not impose on anyone, the beliefs that underpin our values. We recognise and celebrate the richness that spiritual and cultural diversity brings to our community, respecting the beliefs and practices of other faiths in the hope that we will provide a welcoming environment for all.



### The Oasis 9 Habits

We believe in continually developing our character and being transformed to become the best version of ourselves. Therefore, we actively promote and practice the Oasis 9 Habits, a way of life characterised by being compassionate, patient, humble, joyful, honest, hopeful, considerate, forgiving and self-controlled.

### Policies

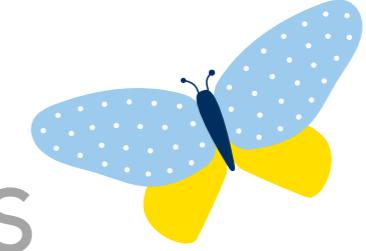
You will find a full list of policies available on our website, and through our academy office. These include parent feedback processes, behaviour for learning at school and our safeguarding promise to you.





Welcome to

# Early Years Foundation Stage



It is our aim to give each and every child the personalised education they deserve; we begin this from the onset where we have an individualised, warm and welcoming approach to helping children settle into school.

In Nursery we have three termly intakes, September, January and Easter. We value every child for their individuality and know that each child will settle in their own way, so we work closely together to ensure a smooth transition.

**The Nursery morning session runs from 8.40am - 11.40am**



**The Nursery afternoon session runs from 12.00pm - 3.00pm**



**Pupils joining the school speaking little or no English have a good programme of induction.**  
Ofsted Feb 2018

**Parents are highly supportive of this improving school.**  
Ofsted Feb 2018

## Learning

The learning programme in our Early Years Phase is based on the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum, and is heavily play and exploration based. Our aim is to provide holistic learning in a safe, happy and stimulating environment through which all children are challenged to reach their full potential.

You can find out more about our Early Years provision on our school website.

## How to apply for Nursery

Applications for Nursery places can be made directly to the academy. Please visit the website today or email us on [info@oasisfirvale.org](mailto:info@oasisfirvale.org) for your application form.



## At Oasis Academy Fir Vale we want our children to:

- Experience the joy of discovering new things
- Develop a thirst for learning through interesting, play based activities
- Develop communication skills to enable them to express themselves
- Develop positive relationships, understand their emotions and learn to self-regulate
- Develop learning skills to enable them to be successful in their educational journey and beyond
- Experience the natural environment outside and access learning on a larger scale



# Life at Oasis Academy Fir Vale

Life at our academy is never dull; every day is different and full of opportunity.

School starts at 8.45am and ends at 3.00pm



"Children's Choice has been great. I have been able to bake as well as play badminton."

## Lunches

The academy operates a healthy eating policy. At lunchtime we encourage children to have an academy meal all cooked on site, nutritionally balanced and with a choice of food.

School meals are charged daily. For prices check academy's website or speak to a member of the office team.

Alternatively, children may bring a packed lunch. Please note that children are not allowed to bring crisps, sweets or chocolate into the academy at any time in line with the healthy eating policy. Products containing nuts are strictly prohibited in school.

You can find out more about our lunches and free school meals by visiting our academy website.

## Enrichment and Extra-Curricular Activities

At Oasis Academy Fir Vale every child has the chance to access a variety of enriching experiences. We build this into day-to-day lessons and also through organising special events, day trips, visitors and family events. Please see our "experience trail" for more information.



## Supporting everyone (SEND)

We aim to meet the needs of all individuals within our academy. In line with the new SEND Code of Practice, these children are offered SEN Support in a range of different ways targeted to meet their individual needs.

For more information check the academy website.

## Hub

We offer opportunities for extended learning beyond the core academy day. Our extended provision through our Hub team is at the centre of our community work. The team deliver a wide range of services at the heart of our local community, recognised by others for our clear understanding and support of local issues and awareness of community needs.

Contact the academy to find out more about what we can do to support you.

## How to apply

The admissions policy of Oasis Academy Fir Vale is totally inclusive. Oasis always offers an inclusive education designed around, and for, the community in which it is located.

Please visit Sheffield Council's admissions page ([www.sheffield.gov.uk/home/schools-childcare/apply-school-place](http://www.sheffield.gov.uk/home/schools-childcare/apply-school-place)) where you will be able to find out more information on how to apply for your child to start school.

Alternatively email: [ed-admissions@sheffield.gov.uk](mailto:ed-admissions@sheffield.gov.uk) or phone 0114 273 5766



## Uniform

Wearing a uniform is a way to show our pride in being part of the school and is an important part of creating an identity and sense of belonging for each child.

Uniforms show that you are part of an organisation that prides itself on being smart and part of the same team.

If you wear your uniform with joy, it means you have a sense of belonging to our school and are creating an identity in the community.

Pupils are expected to wear full academy uniform every day. The uniform consists of:

- White polo shirt (with academy logo)
- Navy blue sweatshirt or cardigan (with academy logo)
- Black or grey shorts, trousers or skirts
- Smart black shoes
- Blue gingham dresses can be worn in the summer
- PE Kit bag (with academy logo)
- School book bag

Our academy works with uniform supplier Pinders Schoolwear. You can order directly with them or come into the academy reception as we have plenty in stock for you to purchase.

## Behaviour & Rewards

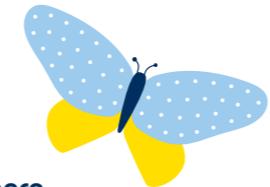
We wanted to link our rewards to the vision of the Oasis 9 Habits. At Oasis Fir Vale we believe that encouragement and praise is central to the promotion of high standards of behaviour; rewards are a means of achieving this.

Our Rewards and Behaviour Policy focuses on what students are getting right; highlighting the good behaviour choices that are made.

We believe that rewarding students makes them feel valued, builds confidence and motivates them to achieve.

We tailor our reward system to make it achievable, so students are motivated and inspired by the targets set.

We will reward regularly, consistently and sincerely, ensuring that regardless of ability and age all students across the school will be able to benefit from the rewards process.



**"Oasis Academy Fir Vale is fun, especially at play times when there are lots of activities to do like football, cricket and playing on the trim-trail."**



## Home and School partnership

We value our partnerships with parents and carers and we are committed to holding individual meetings with every student and parent each term. This is a dedicated time when parents meet with class teachers to discuss what is working well and how to improve, discussing subject specific priorities, progress and budding passions.

We believe strongly that we cannot do this without your support, and therefore value parental input and clear communication to help your child succeed. Parents are also invited to come to academy events.

### Reading Morning

Come and join our reading morning every Wednesday from 8:30am in the school hall. Share a book with your child and help promote the love of reading!

### Celebration Assembly

We have a celebration assembly every Friday at 9am in the hall. Please come and join us to celebrate achievements of the week.

### Family Learning

We have regular activities and short courses, usually on a Wednesday morning. Please look out for what is happening in our school newsletter or ask at the school office.

### Community Events

Throughout the year we host community events including a Winter and Summer Fayre.

For any further information please contact the academy on **0114 201 2300** or email **info@oasisfirvale.org**



## What is a School of Sanctuary?

A School of Sanctuary is a school that is committed to being a safe and welcoming place for all, especially those seeking sanctuary. This could be people whose lives were in danger in their own country, who have troubles at home or are just looking for a space of safety.

Here at Oasis Academy Fir Vale we are extremely proud to be the second school in Sheffield to be named 'School of Sanctuary'. We worked hard on developing an effective induction package for our children and families so everyone feels welcome in our school.

Please click on the following link to find out further information on the School of Sanctuary:

<https://schools.cityofsanctuary.org>

**"I have really enjoyed my time at Oasis Academy Fir Vale. I think my learning has got better and I feel more confident to answer questions in class."**



## Our Approach

# Teaching and Learning

At Oasis Academy Fir Vale, we teach an exciting and creative curriculum that takes account of the latest research on how children think and learn.

We encourage our learners to achieve their very best and to ensure they develop their skills and talents in all aspects of intellectual, social and physical development. We are committed to ensuring that all our pupils get the very best academic start in life, so that they leave the academy fully prepared for their secondary education.

### The academy is split into the following stages:

Early years Foundation Stage:  
Nursery (3-4 years old)  
Reception (4-5 years old)

Key Stage 1 – Year 1 (5-6 years old),  
Year 2 (6-7 years old)

Key Stage 2 – Years 3, 4, 5 and 6  
(7-11 years old)

### The core areas of our curriculum are:

**English language and literacy**  
– speaking, listening, reading and writing.

**Mathematics** – learners develop their numeracy, problem solving and reasoning skills through a range of practical activities and challenges.

**Science** – learners have opportunities to explore and learn about their world. They learn to hypothesise, test their predictions and draw conclusions.

**Information Technology & Computing** – learners are equipped with the necessary skills and confidence to successfully function in the changing world of technology.

**Religious Education** – we believe that all learner should develop mutual respect and understanding of many different beliefs and cultures.

### Your child will also study the following Foundation subjects:

- Art
- Design Technology
- Geography
- History
- Music
- Relationships, sex and health education
- Physical Education

Our academy website has a host of Home Learning activities that children have access to as well as videos by class teachers.

**Senior leaders and governors have established a very effective leadership team.**  
Ofsted Feb 2018



## A message from our CEO

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



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



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[www.oasisacademyfirvale.org](http://www.oasisacademyfirvale.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](https://twitter.com/OasisAcademies)

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