

OASIS ACADEMY ARENA NEWSLETTER



A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Dear parents and carers,

I write to you all very excited for the new half term ahead. I am sure you will agree that the first half term back to school was very busy for everyone and we certainly have much to be very proud of.

I have been particularly pleased with the following over the last half term:

- Our new year 7 students have settled in well at our academy.
- We have a new team for our student leadership, they held an assembly Black History Month.

Please do encourage your child to take part in our extracurricular activities, these form an important part of being a student in secondary school.

I would like to invite you all to follow our Facebook and Twitter accounts. You just need to search '[Oasis Academy Arena](#)' for Facebook and [@OasisArena](#) for our Twitter page. Here you will find our exciting school updates and announcements that we would like to share with the community.

I look forward to working with you over the half term ahead.

Thomas Raymond
Principal



SECONDARY SCHOOL APPLICATIONS FOR 2023

As a reminder, the secondary school application deadline for students starting year 7 in 2023 was October 31st. If you or someone you know have children in year 6, please ensure steps are taken to submit the student's application as soon as possible and remember to put down Oasis Academy Arena as an option to secure a place at our school.

**The deadline for secondary
school place applications
is 31 October**



GOV.UK

KEY DATES THIS TERM

Autumn Term 2:

31st October - 16th December

11th November - Remembrance Day

14th - 18th November - Anti-Bullying Week

14th - 20th November - Road Safety Week

10th December - Human Rights Day

Christmas Break:

19th December 2022 - 2nd January 2023

Spring Term 1:

3rd January - 10th February 2023

ACADEMY UPDATES: YEAR 7

Year 7 have had a fantastic start to the term! It took us a little while to get into the routine of our line ups, but I'm pleased to report that we start the day, our lessons and end the days with fantastic line ups.

The students have had an engaging start to their secondary curriculum; from Maths to Music the students have got stuck into their learning with enthusiasm and enjoyment. One of the highlights for me particularly is walking through the corridors and seeing the students singing and performing in music.

We've had a particular focus on kindness, looking at how we can best treat others including staff and other students. One of our form tutors even held a kindness competition which the students eagerly took part in. The transition to secondary can be a little tricky but with the work of our fantastic teachers and the students' willing engagement, year 7 has settled down well into the curriculum and into the day to life of the school.

Mr. Sunderland
Head of Year 7

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD

We're delighted to let you know that we are about to launch the Duke of Edinburgh's Award at Oasis Academy Arena and wanted to let you know more about what's involved



Why do DofE Award?

Taking on the Duke of Edinburgh's Award is a brilliant way for your young person to discover just how much they are capable of. It gives young people the chance to make new friends, follow their passions, learn new skills and make a difference in our community.

Achieving a DofE Award is a great way to impress employers too. It helps young people to see themselves differently and gain a new level of confidence. We always say that after taking on your DofE, you know that whatever life throws at you, you're ready to deal with it.

The DofE is non-competitive and a powerful way for every young person to build belief in themselves, whatever their background, interests and abilities.

How it works

Anyone aged 14 - 24 can do a DofE programme at one of three progressive levels which, when successfully completed, leads to a Bronze, Silver or Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award. There are four sections to complete at bronze and silver level and five at Gold. With assistance from DofE Leaders, your child will select and set objectives in each of the following areas:

Volunteering

Giving service to individuals or the community. This cannot be for a business or family member but can be for a charity or for a not-for-profit organisation, examples include:

- Raising money for a charity
- Being a football coach
- Helping at an after-school club

Physical

Improving in an area of sport, dance or fitness activities, examples include:

- Joining a local athletics club
- Improving their martial arts skills
- Taking weekly dance lessons

Bronze (14+)				
Those who aren't 14 yet but are in the school year in which their peer group turn 14 may be able to start a Bronze DofE programme.				
Volunteering	Physical	Skills	Expedition	
3 months	3 months	3 months	Plan, train for and complete a 2 day, 1 night expedition	
Participants must also undertake a further three months in the Volunteering, Physical or Skills section.				
Silver (15+)				
Those who aren't 15 yet, but are in the school year in which their peer group turn 15 may be able to start a Silver DofE programme.				
Volunteering	Physical	Skills	Expedition	
6 months	One for 6 months / one for 3 months		Plan, train for and complete a 3 day, 2 night expedition	
If participants haven't achieved their Bronze Award they must undertake a further 6 months in Volunteering or the longer of their Physical or Skills section.				
Gold (16+)				
Volunteering	Physical	Skills	Expedition	Residential
12 months	One for 12 months / one for 6 months		Plan, train for and complete a 4 day, 3 night expedition	Undertake a shared activity in a residential setting away from home for 5 days and 4 nights
If participants have not achieved their Silver Award they must undertake a further 6 months in Volunteering or the longer of their Physical or Skills section.				

Skills

Developing practical and social skills and personal interests, examples include:

- Learning how to juggle
- Improving musical skills
- Build a website, blog or video diary

Expedition

Planning and training for and completing a supervised adventurous journey as one of a team in the UK or abroad. It can be by canoe, kayak or boat; on foot; on horseback; by wheelchair or by bicycle.

Residential

At Gold level, participants must do an additional fifth Residential section, which involves staying and working away from home doing a shared activity, examples include:

- Assisting at a kids' summer camp
- Helping deafblind young people and adults to enjoy a holiday in France
- Joining a conservation camp

Each progressive level demands more time and commitment from participants: Bronze 3–6 months; Silver: 6–9 months; Gold: 12–18 months. Participants are required to show regular activity and commitment to the award for the duration of their DofE programme, which is usually at least one hour per week.

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award provides individuals with values and experiences that are highly sought after in the workforce. From the service/volunteering completed to the adventure an Award holder took on, employers are seeking well-rounded employees.

We hope you'll agree that the DofE is the perfect way for your child to feel ready for their future.

You can find more information online at www.dofe.org

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

In October, as part of Black History Month, we hosted a range of activities for our students, including culture celebration day, encouraging our students to attend school in their own cultural wear. We have launched the 'Arena Equality and Diversity Group' for students with the focus on making Arena an even more inclusive academy. The first meeting took place in October.

Our heads of years, each delivered BHM assemblies to all year groups explaining what BHM is about and how we celebrate this around our academy.



On the last day of half-term, we encouraged our students and staff to come dressed in their cultural wear part of our Cultural Day, celebrating the diversity in our academy.

The student leadership team delivered an assembly celebrating black British artists and philanthropists. William sang, 'Stand by Me' which was accompanied by Kedar playing the piano. Taliah performed a spoken word verse which explored why celebrating Black History Month is so important. This half term, the student leadership will be leading the, 'I Love Croydon' project.

