

Public Consultation Information Booklet

Oasis Restore - a secure school enabling children to live their best lives, through education, well-being and hope.



A message from our Founder

A very warm welcome to Oasis Restore, England's first secure school

Welcome to the Oasis Restore consultation event. I'm delighted to take this opportunity to talk to you more about Restore, Oasis, and what it means for the criminal justice system.

I founded Oasis over 36 years ago, and since then we've grown to become one of the largest charities in the UK, working to provide housing, education, healthcare, youth, and family support, as well as countless other community-building initiatives around the country.

Oasis Restore represents a revolution in the criminal justice system for young people. Following new government legislation, Oasis Restore is England's first ever Secure School, on course to open in Medway, Kent in early 2024.

Day after day this work brings me face-to-face with a stark reality. Our national systems – of welfare, health, education, housing – are failing the most vulnerable young people who, as a result, all too frequently find themselves caught in a persistent loop of exclusion that defines their future and inhibits their life chances. That's why I'm passionate about Oasis Restore, and equally about working in partnership with the government, NHS England and Improvement and a range of other partners across the charitable and public sector to bring about much needed radical change.

Oasis Restore is at the forefront of a long-awaited revolution in youth justice. Our school offers therapeutic, integrated, and bespoke support for children, along with pathways for successful transition that quips them to contribute to a safer community.

Our public consultation is open from Thursday 17th November to Wednesday 14th December 2022, and I look forward to hearing your response to our proposal.

“ At Oasis, we're passionate that every community 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.



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Steve Chalke". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rev. Steve Chalke, MBE
Founder & Leader



A message from our Senior Leadership Team

Our leaders are experts in their field and are champions of divergent thinking



Andrew Willetts
Principal Director

Andrew Willetts is the Principal Director of Oasis Restore the first ever secure school (in the UK). Andrew has previously worked in Education, Public Health, Local Authority and the NHS (Clinical Commissioning Group). He has extensive knowledge/experience around children and family work both in design/delivery and commissioning. The programmes he has led on and had responsibility for have been amongst the top performing areas in the country (example troubled families). Andrew (and his teams) have also led on a number of programmes evidenced in national best practice including 'child first'.

Andrew has extensive experience in inspections and has helped to improve service delivery from inadequate to good and has received positive personal feedback from Joint Targeted Area Inspections (JTAI), Ofsted and Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation (HMIP) services for his leadership.

Andrew is relentlessly aspirational for children and he has dedicated his life to improving their outcomes specifically with children with complex vulnerabilities, behaviours and needs. He has transformed and developed children and family hubs, health and wellbeing centres and youth provision in challenging circumstances and in areas of significant deprivation, where families/children are in need of support.



Dr Celia Sadie
Director of Care & Well-Being

Dr Celia Sadie is the Director of Care and Wellbeing at Oasis Restore. She is a Consultant Clinical Psychologist and a specialist in adolescent mental health and psychological therapies. Her career has spanned adolescent in-patient and youth custody settings as well as work in private practice and as an expert witness.

Celia has led the implementation of 'SECURE STAIRS' – the new national approach to creating integrated and effective care for children and young people in secure accommodation – at Cookham Wood Young Offenders' Institution. She is passionate about creating the space for children in trouble with the justice system to find help, safety and understanding. Her practice is guided by a belief in the redemptive power of love, the capacity for reconciliation, and the restoration of dignity and hope, alongside the realism gained from her wealth of experience in NHS and custodial settings.

Core to Celia's commitment to children in secure settings is a deep awareness of the struggles experienced by those caring for them: families, carers, professionals, and staff. At Cookham Wood, Celia developed a system of training and supervision for staff that provided space for them to explore, reflect, and navigate the difficult experiences they encounter in their work. Celia brings this expertise to Oasis Restore, with the responsibility of designing and nurturing a caring and reflective environment for our staff and children alike.



Cara Beckett
Director of Learning & Enrichment

Cara Beckett is the Director of Learning and Enrichment at Oasis Restore and has worked for Oasis for the last six years in education as a curriculum leader and a science teacher. She is dedicated to improving the quality of teaching, learning, and outcomes for young people. Cara was previously an integral part of the Oasis National School Improvement Team, focusing on meeting the learning and development needs of children in the Oasis family of schools. Cara has a wide-ranging knowledge of the educational and personal development needs of young people, as well as an unwavering commitment to improving outcomes of the most disadvantaged children across the country. She is a passionate advocate for trauma-informed practice and believes in constructing trust through working with individual strengths, positive reinforcement, and continuous professional development for all staff.

As a leader of diversity, Cara is acutely aware of the opportunity to turn aspiration into successful outcomes for young people. She and her team had been praised for their work to create an innovative and balanced curriculum that supports the most disengaged learners within a classroom. Her commitment to staff development, in line with the latest psychological advances in the way children learn, has brought about marked improvement in outcomes across Oasis schools nationally.

About

Oasis Restore & the Secure Academy Trust

The Ministry of Justice (MoJ) appointed Oasis to establish England's first secure academy trust – to be known as Oasis Restore; an innovative, new model of care for young people in the youth custody estate, where the aim is to improve outcomes for children.

The policy vision put forward by the MoJ is for a new type of provision – secure schools - to deliver care and rehabilitation creating 'bespoke provision for individual children that has education, healthcare and physical activity at its heart – a therapeutic environment in a secure setting' so that children who have offended can move on to lead positive and productive lives.

Secure Academy Trusts – which are independently run charitable companies akin to the Department for Education's Academy Trusts - will run and manage secure schools. They will be funded by the Ministry of Justice and NHS England and Improvement (NHSE&I), who are joint commissioners - using a Funding Agreement, not a commercial contract. Secure schools will deliver provision that is child-focused, integrated and values-led, with a specialised workforce. They are designed around a joint outcomes framework, working in partnership with NHSE&I, offering individualised care for children that establishes strong links with the community.

The MoJ has recently passed legislation to enable this significant policy change and to allow Academy Trusts to exist in the secure estate. Secure schools will be dual registered as 16-19 Academies and Secure Children's Homes, and they will be inspected as such by Ofsted and Care Quality Commission.

Oasis Restore is planned to open in early 2024 and will care for 49 children aged 12 to 18 years who are sentenced or remanded to custody by the courts.

As with the Free School pre-opening process, Oasis has recruited three senior leaders to develop the design of Oasis Restore prior to commencing mobilisation, with recruitment for further roles in the school to follow.

Oasis Restore's Senior Leadership Team are experts in their field, are champions of divergent thinking, are innovative, and are committed to providing psychologically informed, developmentally appropriate models of support and education for children.



The Oasis Ethos

Everything within Oasis Restore 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

We hope our values and our ethos are felt whenever someone encounters Oasis, permeating everything we do.

We encourage every member of our family, be that staff or student, resident or community member, to align themselves to these ethos 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.

Governance

A new charitable company will be set up for the secure school, according to the Ministry of Justice's requirements and a Board of Trustee Directors will be appointed by Oasis.

Oasis Restore is governed by the Oasis Restore Board and supported by their Executive team.

The Principal Director of the school will be responsible for the outcomes and progress of the school, and the Executive and Senior Leadership team will be accountable to Oasis Restore of Trustees.

The Ministry of Justice will hold Oasis Restore to account for the school's overall performance and outcomes.

As outlined in the secure schools: How to apply guide, the regulator will ensure inspections are conducted in accordance with the relevant registered authority's frameworks.

Oasis Restore will be inspected by Ofsted, with support from the Care Quality Commission. These inspections will take place twice a year. Ofsted is a recognised authority in the field of inspection and regulation of social care settings. Although secure schools will be different to other children's homes, Ofsted also have significant experience leading the inspection of large custodial institutions like STCs. They are clear they are ready to lead inspections of secure schools independently.

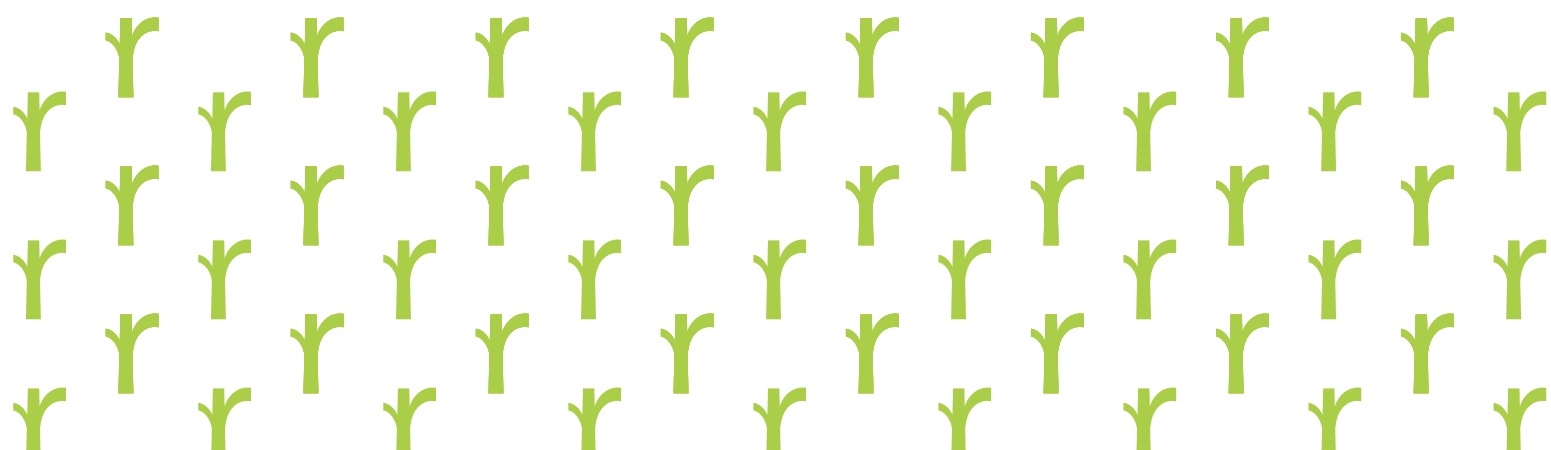
The CQC are also experts in inspection and regulation of health and social care settings. They are well placed to support Ofsted using their significant experience and expertise of inspection across a wide range of services including large NHS trusts, prisons and secure children's homes.

Curriculum

We want our children and staff to enjoy discovery and the experience of learning. This could be a child learning to enjoy academic achievement, identifying a meaningful life goal, or understanding more about who they are, and hope to become.

Each of our students will receive an ambitious and competency-based curriculum that builds on their existing interests and strengths, meets the breadth of their neurodiversity and learning needs, and is integrated with health and care. We seek to build every child's aspiration and hope for future in their education, employment, or training opportunities.

We will apply and integrate practical knowledge across the whole school curriculum, so that children learn as they 'do' through an enrichment and life skills programme with a social and cultural entitlement that supports every student to build a future on.



Framework of Care

Oasis Restore has a values-led, evidence-based, and bespoke approach to our practice. This is encapsulated in the Restore Framework which is designed for the specific group of children we serve and informs all that we do from our policies and processes to our structures and daily interactions.

The Restore Framework is grounded in the Oasis ethos and 9 Habits and supports whole, integrated systems. By having an inter-dependent, pan-organisation approach to our staff and systems, we encourage collaboration and enable each area of practice to bring the benefit of their learning and, together, we can deliver high quality care for our students.

Importantly, Restore's Framework is psychologically informed. This means we have used tried-and-tested knowledge of practice and psychological theory to inform our understanding of areas such as:

- How the human brain develops in childhood and adolescence
- What happens to the brain when a child has experienced trauma such as neglect, abuse, lack of loving connections or threats
- How these experiences affect children's social, and emotional development and their ability to process and retain information, learn new things, concentrate, make decisions, and problem solve in everyday life (cognitive functioning)
- The foundational role that quality, secure early attachment relationships play in the emotional development of children and functioning through their teenage years into early adulthood, and their lifelong necessity
- What this means for how we should understand, care for and work with the children at Restore, their families and communities, and how we train and support our staff to help them thrive.

Oasis Restore's Framework is founded on the following principles:

- R** ▶ Relationships through building trust
- E** ▶ Empowerment through providing choices and nurturing responsibility
- S** ▶ Safety through providing consistency, a secure base and community
- T** ▶ Trauma-Informed practice through creating a psychologically informed culture and systems
- O** ▶ Ownership through providing life affirming opportunities
- R** ▶ Restoration through offering support and challenge
- E** ▶ Enquiry through encouraging openness and reflection

In using these principles throughout our policies, practice, and processes in the school, we will ensure that we create an environment of high-quality care and psychological safety for our students and staff.

Our Site and Refurbishment

Oasis Restore will open on a refurbished site on Sir Evelyn Road near Rochester. The existing building is currently undergoing extensive works to create a physical environment that fulfils the Restore vision.

Oasis Restore will be registered as a Secure Children's Home and an Academy. The refurbishment will ensure that Oasis Restore can provide a safe, stimulating home and learning environment.

Careful thought has gone into the design, furniture, colour schemes, branding and landscaping to create a residential school with security that supports staff and children's well-being and meets the needs of our students.



Public Consultation Events

Our consultation is open from Thursday 17th November until Wednesday 14th December 2022

We will be holding two repeated consultation events on the following days and times: Thursday 17th November 2022 with the first session being at 15:00 - 16:00 and the second session being 18:00 - 19:00.

All events will take place at the Warren Wood Social Club, Rochester ME1 2XA. Please come along to share your views about Oasis Restore and to meet our team. We would love to hear your views and opinions about the secure school.

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Questionnaire

Your feedback is important to us.

Our questionnaire is open from Thursday 17th November until Wednesday 14th December 2022 and can be accessed by scanning the QR code.



Follow Us on Social Media

 @OasisRestore

 Oasis Restore



If you wish to know more about Oasis Restore - please contact:

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 @OasisRestore

www.oasisrestore.org



If you wish to know more about Oasis - please contact:

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Oasis
restore

A secure future for young lives

