



RESTORE

A new approach to youth justice



Information booklet

on the proposal for Oasis Restore

A new approach to rehabilitation

Welcome from our Founder, Steve Chalke



Welcome to Oasis Restore. I'm glad to take this opportunity to introduce you to Oasis and specifically our proposal for England's first secure school which is proposed to open in Medway, Kent in December 2022.

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.

Day after day this work brings me face-to-face with a stark reality. Our national systems – of welfare, health, education, housing etc. – 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.

Our vision for Oasis Restore is focused on restoration rather than retribution and creating a safe environment with a holistic approach to education, care and health. We will offer a reparative opportunity to children and young people, who have become criminally involved, often as a result of neglect, trauma and loss.

Oasis Restore is at the very forefront of a long-awaited revolution in youth justice. The secure school places therapeutic, integrated and bespoke support for children, along with pathways for successful transition at the very heart of the youth secure estate for the first time.

Within this information booklet, you'll find out more about Oasis, our vision for Oasis Restore and our secure school leadership team.

As a proposed academy we are consulting on the vision of Oasis Restore and would appreciate your feedback. There is a link to a questionnaire at the back of this booklet that we hope you will fill in.

We have designed our public consultation across two phases: the first phase is open from Monday 12th July 2021 until Monday 6th September 2021 and the second will be towards the end of 2021 or at the start of 2022. This staggered approach will allow ample opportunity for further comments from community members in the period before a decision is made on entering into our Funding Agreement with the Ministry of Justice. I look forward to hearing your response to our proposal.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steve Chalke".

Steve Chalke
Founder, and Leader
Oasis Charitable Trust

Oasis Charitable Trust

Everyone matters. Everyone belongs. Together we thrive.



For 36 years Oasis has been helping to build community where everyone can thrive. We work to end disadvantage and create opportunity for all, providing education, housing, health, justice, youth and family support.

We specialise in building – and helping others build – strong inclusive communities where every person can find their place, flourish and achieve their potential. We also work with those who find themselves outside of a healthy community to find their place once again.

Wherever we work, we serve and respect everyone, welcoming their gender, race, ethnic origin, religion, age, sexual orientation or physical and mental capability. We do all this through a wide variety of integrated, high quality and diverse activities and partnerships.

Currently we work in 42 local neighbourhoods in England and another 26 in various other countries around the world – in Europe, Asia, Africa, and North America. Our approach, however, is always bespoke; tailored to each local community we work with.

Within England, Oasis has over 6,000 staff as well as thousands of volunteers. We work with some 1,200 homeless or vulnerably housed young adults each year. We are responsible for 35,000 students in 53 schools in challenging communities. We also run a wide variety of other community building projects and initiatives; everything from foodbanks to debt advice centres, credit unions to saving clubs, city farms to community shops, breakfast clubs to adult literacy courses, children's centres to refugee housing, libraries to football teams and health projects to employment initiatives.

Each of our projects are tailor made to meet bespoke community needs. To facilitate this we work in partnership with a wide range of government agencies and statutory organisations as well as many other charities and local community groups.

A light green silhouette map of the United Kingdom is positioned in the background on the right side of the page, partially overlapping the statistics.

40

Oasis communities within the UK

53

Schools within the Oasis family

23,304

People access our community services

Our leadership team

Providing a place of care where every child is given opportunity



As with all work with children, the people you have on board to care, nurture, model positive behaviour culture and provide positively attuned relationships is critical. Our leadership team are experts in their field and are champions of divergent thinking, are innovative, creative minded and are committed to providing psychologically informed, developmentally appropriate models of support and education for the children who will be within our care.



Andy Willetts
Principal Director
Oasis Restore

Andy Willetts is the Principal Director of Oasis Restore. Andy has previously worked in Education, Public Health, Local Authority and NHS Clinical Commissioning Groups. He has extensive knowledge and experience of working with vulnerable children and families and designing and delivering support to meet their needs. Under Andy's leadership, the Troubled Families programme in Medway was amongst the top performing in the country.

Andy has extensive experience in leading and preparing for inspections across range of public services, and within Medway has taken service delivery for children and young people from 'Inadequate' to 'Good'.

Andy is relentlessly aspirational for children and has dedicated his life to improving outcomes for vulnerable young people with high risk, high harm behaviours and complex needs. He has transformed and successfully developed children and family hubs, health and well-being centres and youth provision in areas of significant deprivation, where families/children are most in need of support.

In his leadership roles, Andy has had the privilege of chairing regional boards in youth and family work for the Youth Justice Board and the Department for Education.

Outside of work, Andy is a development coach in the South East to help support individuals reach their potential. He is an ambassador for a number of charities and in his spare time manages an under 15's football team. Andy's parents are Salvation Army officers which, he says has had a huge influence on him and his approach to his work.

Our leadership team

Providing a place of care where every child is given opportunity



Dr Celia Sadie

Director of Care &
Well-Being
Oasis Restore

Dr Celia Sadie is the Director of Care and Well-being 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 Offender Institution, as part of her role as Lead Psychologist there. She is passionate about creating the space for children in trouble with the justice system to find help, safety and understanding.

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. As part of 'Secure Stairs' at Cookham Wood, Celia developed a system of training and supervision for staff that provided space for them to explore and reflect on their experiences. This was designed not only to provide better care for young people, but also to enable staff to make sense of and navigate the difficult experiences they encounter in their day-to-day 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.

Celia's practice, and her vocation as a mother of two children, 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, responding to the acute and changing needs of those she works with.

Celia has trained, published and presented her work widely at national and international conferences, including contributing to the Lammy Review (2017), Youth Justice Conventions in 2017 and 2018, and Offender Health (2021). Much of her work has focused on the development of trauma-informed services, with psychological children/family evidence at their heart, and on the particular challenges faced by adolescents in custody and those who work with them.

Our leadership team

Providing a place of care where every child is given opportunity



Cara Beckett

Director of
Learning &
Enrichment
Oasis Restore

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 passionate 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.

As a champion 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.

Cara believes in constructing trust through working with individual strengths, positive reinforcement and continuous professional development for all staff. She works with teachers to use a trauma informed approach, combined with a personalised and robust assessment of children's needs to create individual learning pathways that build on the strengths of individual young people. Cara has taken an active role within her community to support children to develop a purposeful identity and character.

Cara has an inherent commitment to support the most vulnerable children. Her brother was the first in the world to be diagnosed with a rare chromosomal deficiency at the age of 14 which has had a profound impact on his personal and educational journey. Cara is a champion for those who are overlooked through understanding their traumas and challenges and creating collective commitment to support their success.



Our vision, mission, and approach

Providing a holistic, integrated, safe environment for young people



Oasis Restore vision is to create a safe environment built on a holistic and integrated approach to care, where every child is given the opportunity to learn and develop a positive sense of identity and worth.

Our goal is to support all our students, no matter their starting point, in their social and emotional development, and empower them to build the life skills that enable them to thrive, fulfil their potential and successfully transition into community.

Our practice will be psychologically informed, focusing on restoration rather than retribution through building trusting relationships with and between our students.

Our students will have faced difficult life experiences that have been exacerbated by the lack of a sense of belonging and opportunity, especially in education. The life stories of children in custody are often marked by high levels of trauma, vulnerability and threat. As a result, many experience emotional and behavioural dysregulation.

Whilst we recognise that our students will have to come to terms with the consequences of their criminal behaviour, and accept that their sentencing is the court's punishment, our job is to listen and understand the stories behind the behaviours. In turn, this will help us to formulate integrated care plans that will guide us in meeting children's individual needs, addressing distressed or self-defeating behaviours and working with them to reduce the risk of future harm, and, we hope to move beyond this towards their feeling they can contribute something positive to others.

Our goal is to offer each one of our students an ambitious and competency-based curriculum that meets the breadth of each child's learning needs and builds aspiration and

hope for their future in education, employment and training. Our education offer will comprise of an enrichment and life skills programme with a social and cultural entitlement that supports children to build positive, healthy relationships and see themselves as an integral part of community, now and in the future.

Our mission is to not just deliver an innovative education offer but to also to help each child develop a healthy sense of identity, a sense of purpose, improved social cognition, emotional intelligence, personal stability and hope.

From the very first day of a student's stay at Oasis Restore, we will work with each young person to prepare them for transition. We know that long term progress for these children will need consistent and multi-agency support when they move on from Oasis Restore – be that in community or into the adult estate. We will provide our young people and their families, wherever possible, with an ongoing follow-up programme of personalised support within the community through our restorative service network which Oasis Charitable Trust is developing alongside the school.

This network will complement statutory provision already in place and utilise partnerships and key roles within our staff and the community.

We approach to deliver all our work will be through the Oasis ethos and organisational behaviours – the Oasis 9 Habits - combined with psychologically informed and best practice from across sectors, supported through our partnership with NHS England and development of the Oasis Restore Integrated Framework of Care.

Site refurbishment

Providing a place of care where every child is given opportunity



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

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

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



Governance

Oasis Restore - part of the Oasis family of charities



Oasis Charitable Trust (OCT) has been operating as a national charity for over 30 years and has developed a robust governance model. For the last 12 years, Oasis has operated as a group of charities with OCT as its parent company. While each organisation has its own charitable and company status and is responsible to its own regulators for its own viability and compliance, OCT holds accountability for the overall vision and mission of Oasis.

Before Oasis signs a funding agreement with the Ministry of Justice, we will set up a new Secure Academy Trust, called Oasis Restore.

Oasis Charitable Trust will be the sole member of Oasis Restore and will appoint charitable trustees to its Board. Oasis Restore will be a charitable company and will relate to the Oasis group in the same way as our other subsidiaries.



Public information meeting

Phase 1 consultation is open from 12th July until 6th September



We will be holding a public information meeting on Wednesday 14th July 2021 with session one running from 14:30 – 15:30 and session two running from 18:00 – 19:00 at Warren Wood Social Club – 99B Warren Road, Rochester, ME1 2XA.

Please come along to share your views about Oasis Restore and to meet our team.

Contact us and Questionnaire

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Telephone:

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Email:

Oasis.Restore@oasisuk.org

Website:

www.oasisuk.org

Please fill in our questionnaire and let us have your feedback:

The questionnaire is open from Monday 12th July until Monday 6th September and can be accessed by going to the following website, or by scanning the QR code.

www.oasisuk.org/ORSSconsultation





Oasis Restore

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