

The Rt Hon. The Lord Foster of Bath
Chair, Lords Justice and Home Affairs Committee
House of Lords
London
SW1A 0PW

MoJ ref: ADR134880

12 June 2026

By Email:

Dear Lord Foster,

REOPENING OF OASIS RESTORE SECURE SCHOOL

I am writing to you to inform you that, following its period of closure, Oasis Restore Secure School (ORSS) will reopen next week, with children expected to arrive shortly thereafter.

Placements at the school were suspended last year following concerns regarding the design of the internal doors. In response, we safely transitioned all children placed at the school to other sites across the youth custody estate while the necessary remedial work was undertaken.

The decision to temporarily close the school was made to protect the safety of both children and hard-working staff, and it was the right course of action. Over the past year, significant work has been carried out to address and remediate the issues found at the school. This has included extensive testing and independent assurance of the internal doors, working closely with specialist experts and external partners to ensure they meet the required standards.

Alongside this, the school has also been subject to two Ofsted inspections, which thoroughly assessed the suitability of the building to support and accommodate vulnerable young people, alongside evaluating the school model, staffing arrangements and the school's ability to deliver the best outcomes for the children in their care. Oasis Restore has also implemented a comprehensive improvement plan in response to previous Ofsted inspections, including enhancements to staff training, policies and operational practice.

As co-commissioners, the Youth Custody Service and NHS, along with the provider, have reviewed and updated governance and assurance processes to reflect learning during the closure period.

Taken together, this work provides confidence that the school is ready to reopen and resume its important role within the youth custody estate. Children will be placed into the school on a phased basis, allowing them to be managed safely and ensuring the school can effectively support each individual child as they arrive.

The school's mission remains unchanged: to provide children in custody with the best possible education, healthcare, and therapeutic support. The tailored approach of the school, in tandem with therapeutic interventions, offers a pathway to brighter, crime-free futures.

Thank you for your continued support. We will keep you updated as plans progress. Should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Richards', with a stylized flourish at the end.

JAKE RICHARDS MP