Oasis Academy Ryelands
PE changing protocol

1. It is recommended practice that all pupils should change for PE, particularly when the exertion rate will necessitate a change of clothing for reasons of hygiene. Appropriate clothing should be worn in accordance with the Academy Uniform Policy and in line with local weather conditions.

2. OAR will make adequate and sensitive arrangements for changing which take into account the needs of pupils from different religions, beliefs and cultural backgrounds.

3. All pupils should be treated fairly and with respect for their privacy and dignity.

4. Mixed gender changing, while appropriate for younger pupils, may not be appropriate for older pupils. Year 6 (and if necessary Year 5) pupils should get changed separately, supervised by teacher and TA. Reception to Year 4 should change for PE in their classroom supervised by a member of staff.

5. If a child's parent requests they change separately, they will go to somewhere suitable to do so, such as a toilet area.

6. Teachers need to be aware that blinds may need to be drawn in the classroom if facing a public or open area (including playground) to ensure suitable privacy.

7. Pupils of all ages should be encouraged to be as independent as possible when getting changed; adults should consider prompting and giving verbal help/encouragement before offering assistance. All assistance must take place openly, not out of sight of others.

Swimming

8. On entering public changing rooms, assessment of members of the public and their proximity to the pupil changing area should be carried out and addressed if necessary.

9. As far as possible, members of staff should supervise or assist pupils of the same sex (South Norwood Leisure Centre insists on same sex supervision due to members of the public also using the changing facilities)

10. If changing areas are shared with pupils from another school, particularly those who are older/younger, adults from both/all schools should take this into consideration and properly risk assess together.

Reviewed: February 2023