

Guide: Life After The Oasis Watch Party

Life After The Oasis is a 75-minute documentary that explores the issues, interventions and mindsets associated with lived youth homelessness in Australia. The film revisits people from the original 2008 documentary The Oasis and explores how opportunities and experiences have shaped their lives over the last ten years.

Practical information

Streaming the film 🖥️

Access Life After The Oasis (2019) [here](#)

Length: 1 hour, 16 minutes
Cost: FREE through Vimeo

Access The Oasis (2008) [here](#)

Length: 1 hour, 28 minutes
Cost: FREE through Youtube



Watching the film together

- Share the viewing link with students in advance with instructions to **test** the film works on their device before the watch party starts
- Connect through your usual online classroom e.g. Microsoft teams or Zoom with muted microphones using the **chat feature** to ask questions or comment during the watch party
- Given students will be at home, you could invite them to bring along a **snack** for the watch party such as popcorn or chips 🍿
- Curriculum mapped activities students can complete while watching the film can be found in the **[21 free lesson plans](#)** created by Cool Australia

This resource was developed in partnership by Oasis Ambassador Schools, [YLab](#) and [Shark Island Institute](#), through the generous support of The Caledonia Foundation.

Host a Virtual Community Screening

Virtual Community Screening

Hosting a virtual community screening of a documentary film is an interactive way to bring together a local community to explore a societal or environmental challenge without the red tape of organising an excursion.

You may want to invite or nominate a group of students to organise the screening as a remote way to engage in community service.



Step 1: Create a list of who to invite in your local community

Invite members of your local community to the screening and general Q&A or invite a selection of invitees to be part of a panel discussion. Young people have unique insights and ideas to share and we encourage them to be represented on the panel alongside subject matter experts.

- Additional staff and classes in your school
- School leadership (e.g. Principals, Counsellors, Student Councils)
- Parents and carers who may be at home with students during this time
- Local organisations who support vulnerable young people near your school. You can use [Ask Izzy](#) to find services nearby
- Your Mayor*, council members, local and federal politicians
- Us! [YLab](#) employs a team of 9 young people who have experienced homelessness, including Emma and Owen from The Oasis films, for The Oasis Project. [Reach out](#) if we can support you with a panel discussion

*If you would like to have someone such as the Mayor there, find out when they can attend before setting the screening date.

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Step 2: Design your community screening

- Allow **45–90 minutes** for discussion on the film and community challenges / actions
- Invite attendees to submit questions for the Q&A via the chat feature. You may want to prepare a few in advance
- The facilitator should set a respectful tone to open the discussion, it is likely that the film will have a strong emotional impact on some students. Cool Australia has prepared a guide for **setting ground rules** and advice on **handling sensitive topics**
- It may be easier to begin if you allow people to **respond to the film** before starting to engage in how similar issues affect your community and what can be done to help
- You may choose to have someone alongside the facilitator monitoring the chat for any **technical issues** attendees may be experiencing
- Identify some actions for your audience that will allow them to engage more directly with the issues. Community partners may be able to provide suggestions for actionable steps. The Oasis Project has identified the following priorities: **preventative and early action, community led** and **localised** solutions and placing **young people** who have experienced homelessness at the heart of designing pathways out of homelessness
- Your screening and discussion may have raised awareness in your community about many issues. There may be many people who want to **become involved** in some way. Consider how to stay engaged
- You may wish to **record the Q&A** for further learning and to share with members of your school community who weren't able to attend

Step 3: Once you have a plan, send out your invites!

We have provided an example invitation below.

Step 4: Have a fantastic event!

Join the Facebook group via @TheOasisDocumentary to connect with other educators teaching youth homelessness in their school for advice, ideas and support.

Step 5: Show your support for young people experiencing homelessness

Join schools across Australia in showing your support and let us know how your event went! Take a screenshot of your discussion or post a written update about what resonated with your students the most using the hashtag #oasisproject

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Information for parents

Dear parents and families,

We have been studying youth homelessness as part of **[insert here]**, curriculum designed to support students to safely and meaningfully engage in learning about youth homelessness. Your child has an opportunity to watch Life After The Oasis, a 75-minute documentary that explores the issues, interventions and mindsets associated with lived youth homelessness in Australia. As the documentary contains strong language, drug use and some confronting themes, your child needs permission to participate in the viewing of this film.

Please respond by email with one of the below statements no later than **[insert date]**:

Yes, I give my child permission to watch Life After The Oasis

No, I do not give my child permission to watch Life After The Oasis

Invitation for community screening

Dear **[insert name]**

We would like to invite you to a virtual community screening of Life After The Oasis, a 75-minute documentary that explores the issues, interventions and mindsets associated with youth homelessness in Australia. The film revisits people from the original 2008 documentary The Oasis and explores how opportunities and experiences have shaped their lives over the last ten years.

Every night 22,000 Australian teenagers are experiencing homelessness. While vulnerable young people face heartbreaking challenges, they also have unique strengths and ideas. Now is the time to harness them and those of our local community to understand what is happening in our local community and to design pathways out of youth homelessness. This is an opportunity for us to come together as a community in a time when it is more important than ever to stay connected and stand by vulnerable members of the community.

Screening: **[insert date and time]**

Followed by a Q&A with **[insert here]**: **[insert time]**

Please let us know if you can make it by **[insert date]**. We hope to see you there!

Don't have the capacity to organise a community screening right now? We understand. You can always [register your interest](#) in a workshop facilitated by The Oasis Project team.

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