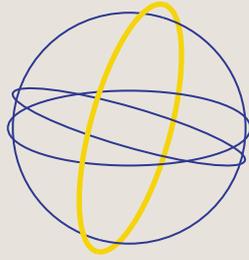


[OAT]  
Ormiston Academies Trust  
AN OAT ACADEMY



Ormiston  
**Meridian** Academy

Shaping Lives | Building Ambition | Igniting Futures

PROSPECTUS



# WELCOME



## A Warm Welcome

I am incredibly proud and privileged to be the Principal of a thriving academy serving the young people and families of our community.

Choosing the right school for your child is one of the most important decisions you will make on their behalf. Therefore, at Ormiston Meridian Academy, we aim not only to match students' and parents' high standards and expectations, but to **exceed** them. Within a welcoming, supportive and nurturing environment, we provide a stimulating, engaging and well-rounded education designed to give our students the best possible life chances as young adults.

We believe in:

### Shaping Lives

Our curriculum is designed to shape the 'whole' child by creating students with considerable characters. We proactively develop opportunities for young people to develop as leaders, independent learners and successful citizens.

### Building Ambition

We are passionate about instilling a strong sense of self-belief, determination and aspiration in every student.

Every child should have the highest expectations of themselves and believe that they can achieve anything they put their mind to, no matter how challenging.

### Igniting Futures

The whole point!

We aim to empower a generation of young people to transform a society by providing a 'Relevant and Relatable Learning' strategy that ensures students are motivated to achieve lifelong and limitless. We provide in-depth knowledge regarding the vast range of opportunities and experiences that are available to them as young adults; further education, university, apprenticeships and ultimately employment.

Your child is at the **heart** of every decision we make and action we take and you have my guarantee that we will go **above and beyond** to provide your child with the best possible education. We want to work with you in close partnership and deeply value your input and constructive feedback. We are passionate about working with you to support your child on this incredible journey as they grow into a flourishing young adult.

# YEAR 7

## THE JOURNEY BEGINS

**At Ormiston Meridian Academy we do everything within our power to ensure a smooth transition from primary to secondary school. We have developed strong links with our feeder primary schools and this has ensured we have a wealth of information and have made contact with our new students before they join us in Year 7. For students with additional needs, we ensure there is an appropriate level of care and guidance to help their transition to our academy.**

From Year 7 we expect students to follow the OMERA standards and these clear expectations are displayed in every classroom. We emphasise the high standards we have in terms of uniform, manners, attitude to learning and general conduct. These standards are simple and easy

to follow and allow well-planned lessons and learning to take place. They ensure students know how to behave each day and they are applied consistently across the academy.

The safety, welfare and happiness of every student is paramount to us. We have a highly experienced pastoral team including a dedicated Head of Year 7, Year 7 form teachers and non-teaching Year 7 Pastoral Manager. They will work closely with our new intake to ensure they settle quickly and become a valued member of the OMERA community. For a child to achieve the best possible outcomes and life chances, we firmly believe that good working relationships and effective two-way communication with parents/carers is essential and we foster this positive relationship from the outset. Achieving the best for your child is the common goal.

**Shaping Lives, Building Ambition, Igniting Futures.**



CURRICULUM



## Curriculum

The curriculum at Ormiston Meridian Academy is designed around our ambition to **'shape lives, build ambitions and ignite futures'**. We aim to provide an exceptional education, with a curriculum that is broad, balanced, inspiring and inclusive for all students, providing them with the very best opportunities to fulfil their potential and enabling students to be successful in life beyond the academy.

### Transition

Our comprehensive transition programme aims to ensure that primary students have a smooth, happy and successful transition to Ormiston Meridian Academy by creating positive, nurturing and strong relationships with students and parents/carers from the outset. Visiting all of our feeder schools, speaking to the students and with key staff, enables us to quickly get to know individuals and create a supportive ethos. The SENCo meets with the SEND lead in our primary feeder schools to discuss the needs of identified students to ensure that the correct support is in place before students arrive with us in September. Students who need additional support are given bespoke transition with individual/small group visits. In addition to this, we have a key team of form tutors that are specific to Y7 and over the years have developed expertise around providing a safe supportive environment, allowing students to flourish when they arrive.

### Key Stage 3 Curriculum

At Key Stage 3, all students follow the National Curriculum by studying English, mathematics, science, art, geography, history, ICT, French, performing arts (music, dance and drama), physical education, religious education and design technology. The Key

Stage 3 curriculum develops a strong foundation for these subject areas, strengthening skills and building knowledge required for further study, whilst striving to develop a passion and enthusiasm for learning. The curriculum and schemes of learning are at least as ambitious as the National Curriculum requires.

As part of our commitment to delivering an exciting and engaging curriculum, we now offer at least one fully funded trip per year at KS3:

**Year 7 Chester Zoo**

**Year 8 Manchester Science and Industry Museum**

**Year 9 City visit an Big Bang STEM Fair.**

### Key Stage 4

Key Stage 4 is introduced in Year 10. Our options pathways process is based on prior attainment, internal assessments, the interests, the abilities and aptitude of the students and they are supported at an individual level to help them choose the subjects that are right for them. All students can access all of the subjects on offer. We offer a wide range of GCSE and vocational qualifications. All students study English, mathematics and science (many taking triple science). In addition, all students take part in timetabled physical education, RE and PSHE lessons. Our wide range of options choices includes:

**GCSE** - Art, History, Geography, Religious Studies, Film Studies, Psychology, Computer Science, Business Studies, French, Spanish, Urdu, Art and Textiles.

**Vocational Qualifications** - (BTEC First and Tech Awards/Cambridge Nationals) - Travel and Tourism, Digital Information Technology, Dance, Drama, Music, Health and Social Care, Sport Activity and Fitness, Engineering, Hospitality and Catering, Enterprise and Marketing.



# PERSONAL AND CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT

## Personal Development



The personal development curriculum is taught discreetly but also interwoven into all curriculum areas and is designed to foster debate, build resilience as well as develop character traits such as courage, honesty and respect. Students at our academy are given the opportunity to develop character through the personal development curriculum and we have a dedicated careers programme designed to inspire students to achieve. We encourage students to be inquisitive and explore new skills using our personal development as a facilitator. Students are encouraged to be ambitious when setting personal goals and are given opportunities to develop and achieve their goals both inside and outside the classroom. Our extracurricular programme enables students to explore and develop new skills as well as raising aspirations. Our strong values underpin the support that students receive at our academy. We ensure that students develop good habits, safe in the knowledge that all staff have high expectations, supported through an ethos of learning and achievement. This prepares our students for their future economic well-being. We are passionate about the personal and character development of our students and have a team of staff dedicated to supporting our students with igniting their own individual futures.

## Student Leadership

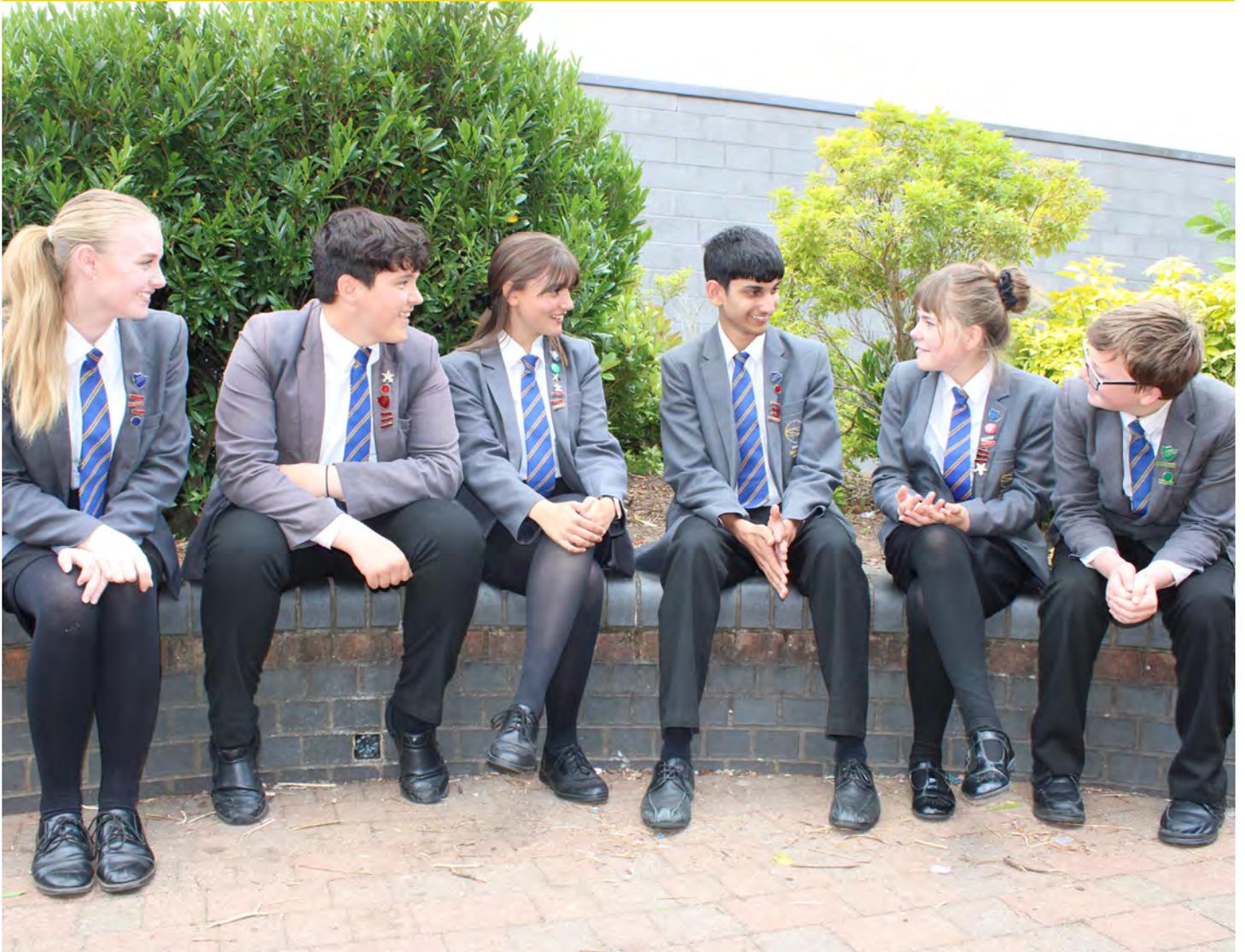
As part of our ambition to 'shape lives', our aim is to develop leaders of the future. All students are given the opportunity to develop their leadership skills and personal characteristics to enable them to be incredibly successful young adults. We firmly believe that leadership and character development are intertwined; good leaders are people of good character, and people of good character make good leaders. All our leadership activities are designed to develop self-confidence, resilience and personal responsibility in our students. Within the academy we have specific roles for which students apply and are then chosen via a democratic process. Through this process, students are either voted for by staff or by their peers depending on the role.

Our student leadership roles include:

- **Form Captain**
- **Subject Leaders**
- **Extra Curricular Captains**
- **Anti-bullying Ambassadors**
- **Academy Council**
- **Peer Mentors**
- **Senior Student Leadership Team**
- **Head Student**

Student Leaders are expected to present their manifesto to their peers. There is then a democratic vote from their peers within their teams with the goal of implementing change or developing their areas within the academy. In the case of our Senior Student Leaders, they present to staff and are then interviewed by senior leaders outlining their goals and ambitions.



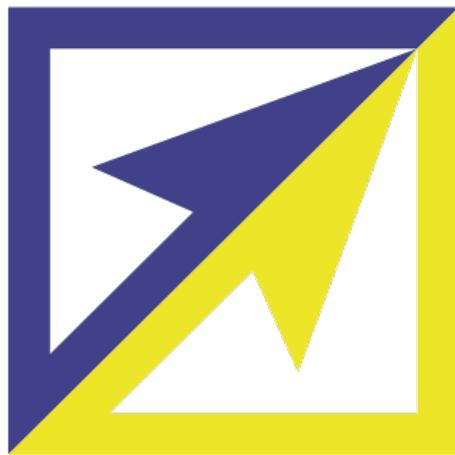


*“As members of the Senior Student Leadership Team we have been given the opportunity to develop our leadership, communication and teamwork skills which are essential skills for future employment.”*



# PERSONAL AND CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT

## Careers Education



## **You're Hired** ORMISTON MERIDIAN ACADEMY

At Ormiston Meridian Academy students have access to a wide range of career based activities that make up our 'You're Hired' programme. Our transition process with local feeder primary schools enables us to adapt our careers programme to meet the specific needs of students within each year group. We provide dedicated and personalised provision to students who require additional support when making and realising their future career aspirations.

As part of this programme students take part in weekly sessions dedicated to 'You're Hired'. During these sessions students develop a clear understanding of the world of employment. Sessions are designed to develop a number of essential soft skills that enable students to achieve their own personal aspirations and goals. Students are taught about potential career pathways. Topics covered include: potential career choices; how to conduct an effective interview; communication with others in a professional manner;

alternatives to college and sixth form; post 16 options; interview skills; CV writing and personal statements; personal finance and option choices.

We actively work with a number of local further education providers and employers. These links enable us to support students beyond their time at Ormiston Meridian Academy, ensuring that they are successful in their future ambitions.

The 'You're Hired' programme at Ormiston Meridian Academy aims to 'ignite futures' by connecting learning to real life contexts making learning relevant and relatable, ensuring students are fully prepared for an ever-changing and demanding modern world. We provide in-depth knowledge regarding the vast range of opportunities and experiences that are available to them as young adults: further education, university, apprenticeships and ultimately employment.







# PERSONAL AND CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT

## The House System

We aim to celebrate the success of all students in all areas of their school life. We ensure that personal development and academic achievements are routinely recognised and celebrated through the academy house system. All students are encouraged to achieve house points that can be earned for specific activities they have chosen to complete during the academy day or in their own time such as community service or raising money for charity.

Throughout the year students will collect house points which will go towards their House's overall total while also working towards their own personal goals. Each year students will start with zero points and work towards bronze, silver, gold and platinum awards. Certificates for each of these milestones will be awarded by their Head of Year throughout the year. At the end of the year students will receive a badge for the level they have achieved through their consistent hard work. Students who consistently achieve platinum throughout their time at the academy will receive special recognition at their presentation evening to congratulate them on demonstrating the academy's values.

## House Ambition Statement

At Ormiston Meridian Academy we endeavour to create a truly cohesive environment that provide students of all ages with a real sense of community and belonging, ability to develop teamwork and leadership skills and opportunities to engage in healthy competition. Our house system plays a significant part in supporting students to develop their personal skills and attributes so that they can become outstanding young adults.

Our academy is divided into four teams and every student is assigned to a House. Students engage in a range of opportunities and competitions throughout the academic year that are designed to embed and uphold our academy's values of:

- ambition
- courage
- honesty
- inspiration
- respect

## Our House Captains





Alan Turing was an outstanding mathematician whose work has had an enormous impact on how we live today. He was the Enigma code-breaker in WWII which was a turning point for the allies' success.

Turing was a founder of computer science and known for being ahead of his time. Turing was homosexual and in the 1950s was convicted for this; Turing received a royal pardon (posthumously) in 2013.

Eleanor May Simmonds, OBE is a British Paralympian swimmer competing in S6 events. She has faced hardship and challenges throughout her life so far but nothing has stopped her reaching the top in her sport, winning two gold medals at the age of 13.

She promotes pure ambition, courage and will achieve based on her hard work and dedication.



Malala Yousafzai is a Pakistani activist for female education. She is known for human rights advocacy, especially the education of women and children. Her advocacy has grown into an international movement. Based in Birmingham, she co-founded the Malala Fund, a non-profit organisation with Shiza Shahid, and in 2013 co-authored *I am Malala*, an international best seller.

In 2012, she was the recipient of Pakistan's first National Youth Peace Prize. Aged 17 at the time, she was the youngest ever Nobel Prize laureate.

Pottery designer Emma Bridgewater is the patron of BREAK charity that supports vulnerable young children, young people and their families.

Her British ceramics manufacturing company was founded in 1985. The company is one of the largest pottery manufacturers based entirely in the UK. Most of its products are made in its factory in the city of Stoke-on-Trent, England, while others are produced in Poland.

## Enrichment

We are dedicated to providing all students with the very best opportunities to fulfil their potential in all aspects of their life. Our aim is to enable students to develop their interests in a wide range of activities far beyond the classroom in order to create well-rounded, healthy and happy young people. As an academy we consider the range, quality and take-up of visits, opportunities and extra-curricular activities; the promotion of British Values; the development of students' character; the quality of debate and discussion and students' understanding of how equality, diversity and tolerance are promoted and celebrated.

Our programme includes:

- **Duke of Edinburgh**
- **Eco-Club**
- **Higher Horizons**
- **Prince's Trust**
- **Academy Dramatic Performance**

Our extra-curricular activities include:

- **Kickboxing**
- **Rugby**
- **Choir**
- **Street Dance**
- **Drama Players**

- **Football**
- **Computer**
- **Gaming**
- **Swimming**
- **Baking and Cooking**
- **Cheerleading**
- **Arts and Crafts**
- **Dance Performance Group**
- **Reading and Homework (HAIL)**
- **The Big Bang Science Club**
- **Netball**
- **MAGIC (Maths, Games and Chess Club)**

### Music

We offer term-long blocks of individual one-to-one music lessons. Instruments available to choose from include guitar, drums, piano, keyboard, and soundbeam.

*“We endeavour to develop interests and passions and to create successful citizens.”*

*Director of Extra-Curricular and Enrichment*



Shaping Lives

Building Ambition

Igniting Futures



EXTRA CURRICULAR

# TEACHING, LEARNING AND ASSESSMENT



## High Standards and Expectations

We aim to ensure the highest standards of teaching and learning across our academy. We set incredibly high standards within every classroom, have very high expectations for all our students and ensure consistently high quality delivery from all our teachers. The progress and development of all students is underpinned by a happy, nurturing and engaging learning environment, high quality teaching that meets the needs of all students regardless of need or ability, a robust and relentless focus on literacy and regular progress checks and informal assessment. There is a strong emphasis across all subjects on developing and sharing good classroom practice in order to maintain the academy's position at the cutting-edge of pedagogy.

## Special Educational Needs

At Ormiston Meridian Academy we have a dedicated Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Faculty. The faculty offers a wide variety of support to students through the use of specific programs, dedicated support staff and the use of specific knowledge and expertise to ensure that students with specific educational needs/disabilities achieve their

full potential through high quality intervention and support. Our team are always on hand to listen to your concerns or questions relating to your child's educational needs and will work in close partnership with you and your child to provide the care and support they need to allow them to thrive.



## Assessment

Assessment plays a crucial role in the learning process. Effective assessment is used to evaluate a student's learning, carefully monitor a student's progress against an appropriate benchmark and provide feedback that will inform future improvements.

Our assessment system follows and reinforces the curriculum, promotes high quality learning and motivates students to achieve short term targets. High quality assessment provides teachers, students and parents with a deep insight into the progress a child is making across all areas of the curriculum. Information from assessment serves important purposes.

- It gives assurances to parents about children's progress and how they are performing against national benchmarks.

- Assessments provide prompt reflection on learning and progress made.
- They provide a summary of what students have achieved and had success in.
- Assessments identify individual areas for development that will form the basis for improvement.

### Target Setting

Effective target setting plays an important role in raising achievement, however targets alone do not bring improvements; it is the actions that the students, teachers and parents take to reach their targets which are important.

The process of target-setting fosters an intrinsic motivation by providing students with short, medium and long term progress and attainment goals.



## PASTORAL SUPPORT



*“ Our aim is that everyone within the academy community knows and feels secure in the knowledge that, as incredibly valued members of our community, they can express themselves freely”*

*Vice Principal*

## Pastoral Care, Inclusion and Support

We place a great emphasis on the importance of pastoral care and support. The emotional wellbeing of each child is of paramount importance to us and we aim to nurture our student's social, emotional and physical wellbeing, which enables them to thrive in their academic studies. We have a deep understanding of the challenges our students face as they grow up into young adults and our pastoral system is structured around providing tailored support and guidance to remove any individual barriers to their progress and achievement and our provision includes:

- **Comprehensive Personal, Social and Health Education**
- **Form tutor support for every child**
- **Head of Year and Pastoral Manager support**
- **The Arch**
- **Angus and Chester - the academy dogs**
- **School Nurse**
- **School Councillor**

*“ Our vision is to engage, encourage and inspire using a range of inclusive programmes to meet the needs of every individual.”*

*The Arch Teaching Assistant*

### The Arch

We offer inclusive programmes that meet the health and well being needs of our academy community. These programmes can be bespoke to individual students, as we realise that life challenges can make us vulnerable at times and we may need social and emotional support.

We offer:

- enhanced transition for Year 6 to Year 7 students and continue this support with The Learning Curve (Nurture Group) and breakfast is offered each morning before school.
- small group work and one-to-one session for self-esteem and emotional regulation to all year groups.
- one-to-one sessions of art therapy using the creative process of art to support their emotional, physical and mental wellbeing. Art therapy can be used to relieve stress and relax the mind and body.
- support for students with physical impairment, working with outside agencies to provide the best support and provisions for each individual student.



Shaping Lives  
Building Ambition  
Igniting Futures

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