

Orniston
Meridian Academy

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

Shaping Lives | Building Ambitions | Igniting Futures

2026/27



Meet the Team

Personal Development Line Management



G Davies
Assistant Principal
Personal Development



R Eldershaw
Assistant Principal
High Ability Learners



R Staton
Eco School
Co-ordinator



E James
Extra-curricular
Co-ordinator



E Prendergast
Director of
House System & Rewards



J Latham
SEND Careers
Co-ordinator



A Temple
Careers Leader



M Campbell
Student Leadership
Co-ordinator



S Hendley
Student/Parent
Voice
Co-ordinator



L Stewart
Social Action
Co-ordinator



L Rowley
SMSC
Co-ordinator



Personal Development
at Ormiston Meridian Academy

Ambition Statement



Personal Development
at Ormiston Meridian Academy

Shaping Lives

We strive to ensure that our students live happy, successful and exciting lives that are underpinned by an excellent education. Our curriculum is designed to shape the 'whole' child by encouraging them to become strong characters, develop leadership traits, become independent learners, develop interests and passions, and become successful citizens, alongside the development of academic and practical knowledge and skills.

Building Ambition

We are passionate about instilling a strong sense of self-belief, determination and aspiration in every student. Every child should have incredibly high expectations of themselves and believe that they can achieve their full potential, no matter how challenging.

Igniting Futures

The Whole Point!

We aim to connect learning to real-life contexts to ensure all our students are well prepared for an ever-changing, demanding and 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.



Achiever Values

Ambition

The desire and determination to achieve success without limits.

Courage

When faced with challenges, we tackle that challenge head-on and with bravery because we know it will help us to develop into strong individuals.

Honesty

We are always truthful with each other and ourselves, act with integrity and do the right thing.

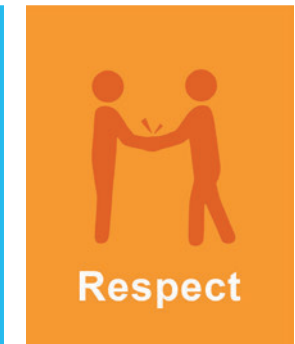
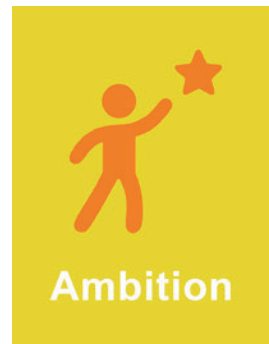
Inspiration

Feel enthused by a person or idea that ignites our passion to become even better than we were before.

OMERA
VALUES
EVERYONE

Respect

Demonstrate the ability to appreciate others' opinions, actions and beliefs even if we have a differing opinion. We act with courtesy, politeness and kindness at all times.



The OMERA Way

At Ormiston Meridian Academy, we believe in developing students to be active citizens who not only respect others and the rules, but also actively engage in their community. By instilling a sense of responsibility towards the society of which they are a part, we empower students to become agents of positive change. **An OMERA student will:**

be an ambitious learner

- Success Score
- Reading widely and often
- 3Rs
- OMERA Standards

be a well-rounded citizen

- “Step into...”
- Eco School
- PSHE
- Decorum curriculum

be physically and mentally healthy

- Being physically active
- Maintaining a healthy mind
- Healthy eating
- Active lunchtime

Igniting Futures Programme

discover passions, talents and interests

- Extracurricular Societies
- Enrichment
- OMERA Entitlement Pledge

be future ready

- “World of Work” careers programme
- Student Leadership
- OMERA Parliament
- Modern Work Experience

contribute to a united community

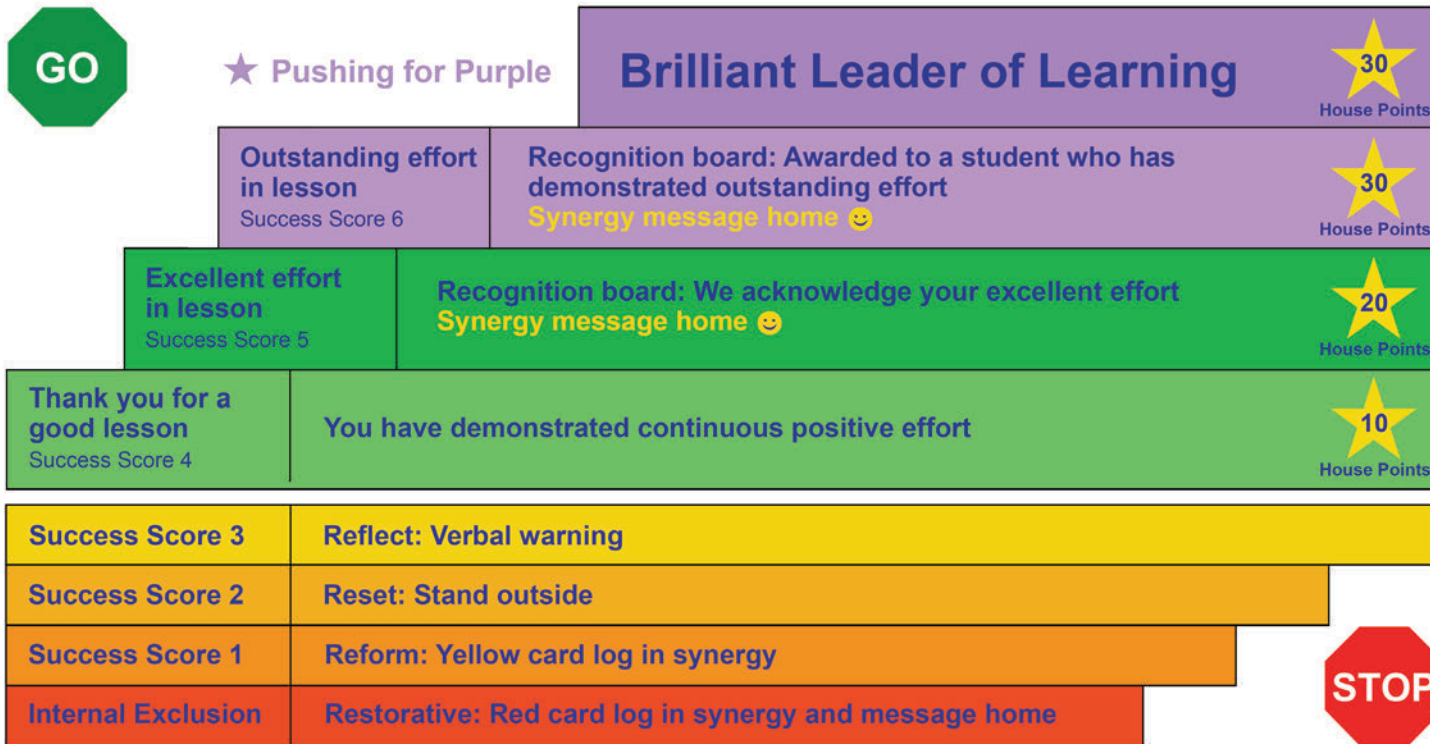
- Houses of OMERA
- Student Voice
- SMSC
- Fundamental British Values
- Culture and Diversity

“Success Score” is a system that is based on recognition of the rights and responsibilities of all members of the school community and the importance of clear and consistent classroom routines which are always adhered to and a culture of rewards for success.

“Success Score” has been designed to ensure that there are high expectations of students’ attitudes to learning, as well as ensuring that students are rewarded and reprimanded for their behaviour appropriately.

Success Score

be an ambitious learner



Ambition ● Courage ● Honesty ● Inspiration ● Respect

Reading Widely and Often

be an ambitious learner

We know that extensive reading and an exposure to a range of texts makes a huge contribution to students' vocabulary acquisition and educational achievement. Therefore, our students study our bespoke 'Reading Widely and Often' curriculum.

The books students read have been selected and are taken from The Book Trust's recommendations for KS3 students, ensuring progression from KS2 both in terms of reading difficulty and challenge of topic. As we read the books, we will take the opportunity to exploit cultural references, explore the links between the issues covered with topical news items and discuss how concepts in the books relate to our understanding of Fundamental British Values.



Reading Widely and Often
at Ormiston Meridian Academy

The Big Debate

The Big Debate is an oracy focused activity which sets our students up for their future. Each fortnight year 7 and 8 are presented with a topical debate. This begins in their weekly assembly where facts and statistics along with the statement or question are delivered. This can be accompanied by anecdotes and other interesting information surrounding the chosen topic.

The following week the year group attends The Big Debate during CORE time. They have the opportunity to discuss their opinions and extra information they may have gathered with their CORE tutor, before opening the debate to the year group. They are required to use key skills: communication, listening, confidence, constructing valid arguments or points of view and finally oracy skills to present their point.

By the end of the debate a student will summarise the information and facts which have been discussed and reveal whether the year group is for or against the statement.

3Rs

be an ambitious learner

The 3Rs

The 3Rs is based on the concept of Reflect, Reset, and Reform. This system emphasises the fundamental value of encouraging students to reflect on their actions and behaviours, it facilitates personal growth and accountability. Reset encourages effective communication and collaboration amongst both staff and students, enabling students to become more self-aware and adaptable. Additionally, the third component of the 3R framework, reform, fosters continuous improvement by providing opportunities for students to learn from past mistakes and make proactive changes in their behaviour. The integration of these principles into staff and student restorative conversations helps create an environment that promotes personal growth and development and enables students to fully understand the impact their behaviours have on academy life.



OMERA Standards

be an ambitious learner



OMERA
Standards

OMERA Standards is based on time, manners, engagement, resilience, and active listening. It is crucial in fostering a productive and disciplined learning environment. By prioritising punctuality and attendance, students develop responsibility and commitment to their education. Teaching them good manners not only cultivates respect for others but also promotes essential social skills for their future endeavours. Encouraging active engagement in class activities nurtures critical thinking, collaboration, and creative problem-solving abilities. Resilience becomes an integral part of the system as it fosters perseverance in the face of challenges and promotes a growth mindset among students. Lastly, valuing effective active listening skills enhances communication proficiency and understanding both within the classroom setting and beyond. By instilling these five key principles into our school behaviour system, we lay a solid foundation for our students' holistic development while preparing them to excel both academically and professionally.

O	n Time	
M	anners	
E	ffort	
R	esilience	
A	ctive Listening	



Step into...
at Ormiston Meridian Academy

Step into....

be a well-rounded citizen

The development of the 'Step Into' programme for each year group to support student development is an essential aspect of creating a comprehensive and effective educational curriculum. By assigning specific themes for different year groups, the academy can ensure that students are learning and growing in a structured and age-appropriate manner. These themes provide a framework through which various topics can be taught, enabling students to make connections between different areas of personal development and fostering a deeper understanding of concepts. Each theme is carefully selected based on the developmental milestones and needs students within each year group.

Year 7  Step into Leadership at Ormiston Meridian Academy	Year 8  Step into Social Action at Ormiston Meridian Academy	Year 9  Step into Your Future at Ormiston Meridian Academy	Year 10  Step into Citizenship at Ormiston Meridian Academy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dedicated leadership training for students. • Year 7 residential, themed around developing leadership skills. • Bespoke support for students that wish to take part in the Academy Leadership programme. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students will take part in a social action project aimed at key issues within the locality of the academy. Previous activities include a coat drive, food bank drive and Christmas gift drive. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bespoke talks based around options and career pathways. • Dedicated curriculum time focused on discussions of career pathways within subject areas. • Parents' and students' information evening based around the options process. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dedicated form time citizenship activities and discussions. • Students to take part in a range of assemblies devoted to promoting what it means to be a good citizen.

Eco Schools

be a well-rounded citizen

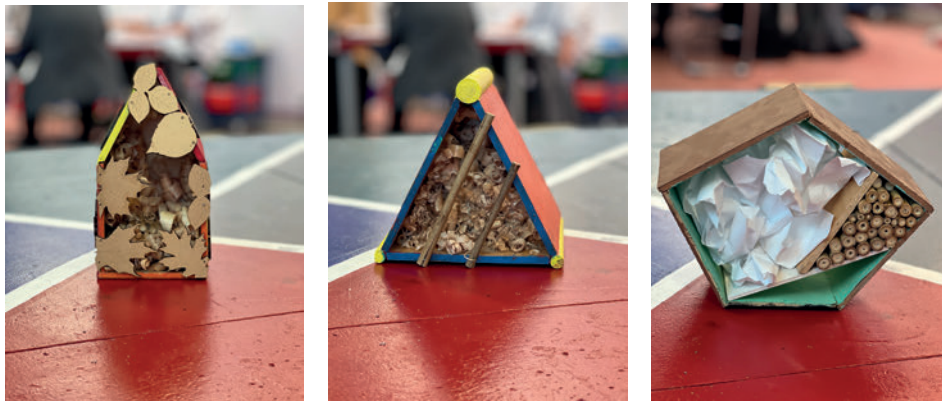


ECO
at Ormiston Meridian Academy

OMERA is dedicated to promoting eco-schools by creating a better environment and teaching students about the importance of sustainability. The academy has embarked on several initiatives to promote eco-friendly practices on its grounds, including implementing eco planting programmes, energy saving measures and recycling programs. Alongside that, the school has integrated eco education into the curriculum of key areas such as geography and design technology.

Developing lessons focused on environmental awareness and sustainability practices. Through these efforts, the academy seeks to cultivate a culture of environmental responsibility in its students and foster a commitment to preserving natural resources for future generations. Overall, OMERA is taking crucial steps towards building a better tomorrow through its focus on eco-education and sustainable policies.

Eco schools at OMERA - Promoting Sustainability and Environmental Awareness.



Work created in Design Technology.

PSHE

be a well-rounded citizen



PHSE

at Ormiston Meridian Academy

Ormiston Meridian Academy's **Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PSHE)** is designed to equip individuals with the necessary knowledge, skills, and attitudes to make informed decisions and lead a healthy and fulfilling life in all aspects. This education aims to empower individuals by promoting personal well-being, building positive relationships, and developing the essential skills needed for economic independence. PSHE encompasses a range of topics including mental health awareness, relationship and sex education, financial literacy, employability skills, and global citizenship. By addressing these areas comprehensively throughout a person's educational journey in a structured manner, it enables them to develop self-awareness, manage emotions effectively, cultivate strong interpersonal skills, develop resilience and empathy towards others, make responsible choices regarding their own health and well-being whilst also understanding the wider impact on society. Ultimately, the mission of PSHE is to support individuals in becoming confident citizens who are equipped with the tools they need to navigate personal challenges successfully while contributing positively to their communities and society at large. In addition to our dedicated PSHE sessions, students take part in bespoke planned drop-down/extra-curricular sessions. These sessions are designed to address age/group specific issues and needs e.g. LGBTQ+, mental health, e-safety, road safety and issues within the locality of the academy.

The key areas of study are:

- Living in the wilder world
- Health and Wellbeing
- Relationship and Sex Education



Ormiston Meridian Academy
is committed to
**Building LGBT+ Awareness,
Inclusion & Safety**

PSHE Programme

Subject Link Key:



Maths



Science



English



Social Science



Humanities



ICT & Business



MFL



Art & Design



Performance

Year 7

- Friendships
- Family
- Bullying and Banter
- Keeping Safe
- Positive Relationships
- Puberty
- Romance
- Resilience
- Aspiration
- Self Esteem
- Needs and Wants
- Racism
- Cyber Safety
- Managing Anger
- Healthy Eating
- Positive Mental Wellbeing
- Basic First Aid
- Periods - What happens and why
- Female Genital Mutilation
What is it?

Year 8

- Consent
- The Dangers of Porn
- STIs
- Contraception
- What is Sexting and the Dangers
- Conflict at Home
- Budgeting
- Homophobia
- Communication
- Team Work
- Credit and Debit
- Prejudice and Discrimination
- Entrepreneurship
- Cancer
- First Aid
- Self Confidence
- Smoking and Vaping
- What is Mindfulness
- Teen Pregnancy

Year 9

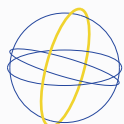
- LGBTQ+
- STIs
- Body Image and the Media
- Peer Pressure
- Child Sexual Exploitation
- Abusive Relationship
- Sustainability
- Employability
- Self Discipline
- The Effects of Knife Crime
- How to Avoid Debt
- Spotting Online Grooming
- Managing Anxiety
- Coping with Stress
- What is Self Harm
- Discrimination
- Alcohol
- Drugs and the Law
- Appropriate Behaviour

Year 10

- Community Cohesion
- Revenge Porn
- Role Models
- Same Sex Relationships
- Transgendered
- Sexism and Gender Prejudice
- Crime, Gangs and County Lines
- Careers
- Employability
- STEM Careers
- Work Experience Prep
- Rights of Workers
- Hate Crime
- Managing Grief and Bereavement
- Social Media and Self Esteem
- Social Anxiety
- Living to Excess
- Binge Drinking

Year 11

- Body Shaming
- Consent
- Happiness and Positivity
- Relationships and Break Ups
- Safe Sex
- Types of Relationships
- GCSE Revision Techniques
- How to apply to College
- Dangers of the Dark Web
- Preparing for Job Interviews
- Extremism
- Independent Living
- Perseverance
- Rest and Sleep
- Risk Taking
- Gambling
- Digital Footprint
- Obesity and Body Positivity



Inclusive

Personal Development

At Ormiston Meridian Academy, we believe that **every student deserves full access to personal development opportunities**, regardless of their learning environment. Our Inclusion Centres - **The Arch, Connect and Resolve** - are designed to provide targeted support while ensuring students remain fully engaged with the academy's wider personal development curriculum.

Our Centres at a Glance

- **The Arch** - Focused on mental wellbeing and therapeutic support.
- **Connect** - Supporting mental wellbeing and attendance.
- **Resolve** - Providing behaviour support and restorative pathways.

Each centre is a nurturing space where students receive bespoke interventions tailored to their individual needs, while continuing to develop the skills, values, and experiences that shape successful, well-rounded citizens.

What Personal Development looks like in our inclusion centres: Students in The Arch, Connect, and Resolve benefit from a **comprehensive and inclusive programme** that mirrors the wider academy offer:

- **Core Time (Form Time Sessions):** Daily sessions aligned with the academy's SMSC and Achiever Values themes, including current affairs, British Values; and character education.
- **Bespoke PSHE Curriculum:** Delivered in small groups or one-to-one, covering key topics such as mental health, relationships, safety, and citizenship - adapted to meet individual needs.
- **Careers Education:** Students engage with the **World of Work** programme through tailored sessions, ensuring they are future-ready and aspirational. This includes career guidance, employability skills, and exposure to pathways beyond school.
- **SMSC and Cultural Capital:** Inclusion Centre students participate in discussions and activities that promote social, moral, spiritual, and cultural development, including multicultural celebrations and awareness campaigns.

- **Access to Wider Opportunities:** Students are actively encouraged and supported to take part in:
 - Extra-curricular clubs and enrichment trips
 - House competitions and OMERA Parliament
 - Leadership roles and student voice initiatives
- **Additional Support:** Students in the centres have enhanced access to:
 - The academy Nurse
 - School counsellor
 - NHS Mental Health Support Team
 - Therapy dog sessions
 - Strengthening Minds and self-esteem programmes

Our Commitment to Inclusion: Being placed in an Inclusion Centre does not mean missing out, it means **receiving the right support at the right time**, while continuing to grow thrive, and succeed. Our centres are fully integrated into the academy’s vision of **Shaping Lives, Building Ambition, and Igniting Futures**. We are proud to ensure that every student, regardless of circumstance, is empowered to become an ambitious learner, a well-rounded citizen, and future-ready individual. We ensure that there is equity of opportunity for all students. We listen carefully to student voice, to tailor our extra-curricular offer accordingly and constantly strive to offer a comprehensive package to our most vulnerable students too.

Examples of our inclusive offer:

- Our Year 7 free breakfast club
- Our SEND focus Extra-curricular lunchtime clubs
- Dedicated careers support from our expert HLTA. Support with college applications, visits and document completion helps support our students make their next career steps with confidence

In addition, our OMERA Entitlement Pledge helps Cultural Capital for all. We believe that certain educational and cultural experiences are so important that we fully fund or highly subsidise them. Because of the value of these visits to a student’s overall personal development they are available for all students as an entitlement not reward. **Our Entitlement pledge includes:**

Key Stage 3	Panto Theatre trip, Year 7 Residential Outdoors Activity trip, Thurstaston Beach visit, French Cafe experience, University of Staffordshire visit, fully inclusive Sport’s day, Yorkshire Sculpture Park, Religious Institution visits
Key Stage 4	Theatre Trip to see GCSE Literature play, Geography Field Work Salford Quays, Art Degree Graduate Exhibition, History Gladstone Museum Visit



Healthy Lifestyles
at Ormiston Meridian Academy

Healthy Lifestyles

be physically and mentally healthy

Physical Health

Taking physical activity for 30 minutes, three times a week at school is a crucial step towards promoting the overall well-being and growth of students. By incorporating regular physical exercise into their weekly routine, the academy contributes positively to the cognitive, social, and emotional development of our students. Physical activity enhances brain functions such as memory and concentration, leading to improved academic performance.

3 Key Facts:

- **Physical activity has significant health benefits for hearts, bodies and minds.**
- **Physical activity improves overall well-being and contributes positively to cognitive, social and emotional development.**
- **Physical inactivity is one of the leading risk factors for noncommunicable diseases and mortality.**

Active Lunchtimes

Students are encouraged to be physically active during lunchtimes through our 'Active Lunchtimes' programme. Activities include: football, netball, frisbee and a variety of other catching and throwing activities.

Inter-house Competitions

The academy has developed a number of inter house competitions to support healthy competition. The competitions are designed to promote physical health and make this fun for all students.

Curriculum and Extra-Curricular

Students participate in 4 hours of PE/Dance in Key stage 3 and 2 hours in key stage 4 every fortnight and receive specific information and advice in curriculum lessons such as design technology and science. Extra-curricular physical activities on offer throughout the year include: football, netball, multi-sports, street dance, dance, swimming, trampolining, badminton, athletics, rounders, inter house competitions and Duke of Edinburgh.

Information Advice and Guidance

Students receive dedicated sessions within appropriate curriculum areas as well as during dedicated PSHE sessions. In addition to this students have full access to the academy nurse who offers a range of support sessions.



Healthy Eating

Ormiston Meridian Academy places a strong emphasis on promoting healthy eating habits both during lessons as well as during break and lunchtime. We firmly believe that a nutritious diet not only enhances physical health but also plays a vital role in cognitive function and academic performance. We incorporate lessons about healthy eating throughout our curriculum in lessons and during PSHE sessions.

Our breakfast program ensures that all students have access to a nutritious meal before beginning their day, preventing hunger-induced distraction or fatigue.

Promoting healthy eating through:

- Breakfast Club
- healthy Choices in the canteen
- dedicated time within the curriculum
- PSHE sessions

By working closely with our catering provider Taylor and Shaw we ensure we are offering healthy food choices during lunchtime and break times. We aim to instill lifelong habits among our students which will enable them to make informed decisions regarding their dietary intake.

Taylor Shaw
Seeing food differently

Promoting Positive Mental Health

Ormiston Meridian Academy understands and values the importance of promoting mental health. Students are educated about the importance of maintaining emotional well-being, resilience, and coping strategies. These lessons equip them to deal with various challenges they may encounter throughout their academic journey. Having trained staff who can provide guidance and support is crucial in creating a safe and nurturing environment for students to express their concerns without fear of judgment or stigma.

This is done through:

- dedicated PHSE lessons
- access to the school therapy dog
- dedicated sessions within our Arch Centre
- a dedicated academy nurse
- bespoke interventions tailored to specific student needs e.g. strengthening minds and self-esteem sessions
- school counsellor
- NHS Mental Health Support Team in school weekly providing 1-1 Sessions and small group work.

This comprehensive approach not only empowers students with the tools they need to navigate the ups and downs of adolescence but also helps reduce the prevalence of mental health issues such as anxiety and depression among young people.

At Ormiston Meridian Academy we are proud to work with the following organisations to support our students:



Extra-Curricular Societies

discover passions, talents and interests

Extra-Curricular Activities

Below are some examples of the amazing clubs our dedicated staff run.

Breakfast Club	Girls' Football Club
Football Club	Choir Club
Chess Club	French Cinema Club
Art Club	Music Club
Multi-Sports Club (in conjunction with SCFC)	Badminton Club
Street Dance Club	Big Bang Theory Club
Drama Club	Dance Club
Baking Club	Sports Hall Athletics Club
Computer Club	Number Ninjas Club
Reading Club	Swimming Club
Netball Club	Textiles and Fashion Club
ECO Club	Duke of Edinburgh Club



Extra-curricular Societies

at Ormiston Meridian Academy

At OMERA we believe in nurturing students' individual talents by encouraging them to take part in some of the optional activities. All students will have the opportunity to take part in these activities throughout their time at OMERA.

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 well as support their character development.



Enrichment

discover passions, talents and interests



Enrichment
at Ormiston Meridian Academy

At OMERA we strive to provide students with opportunities to broaden their horizons and experience a range of different cultures and experiences. Students at OMERA have the opportunity to travel across the UK as well as internationally.

Examples of our international trips include:

- France as part of the MFL curriculum**
- Le Parc Asterix, experiencing a range of social activities in a foreign country**
- Duke of Edinburgh**

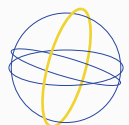
This programme helps our students to: build and cement life-long belief in themselves, supporting them to face their own personal challenges; follow their passions; discover talents they never knew they had. Furthermore, DofE helps students to develop respect for our local community, build resilience, face adversity and to become ambitious, culminating in the receipt of a nationally respected award.

Music Lessons

Following the Year 7 taster sessions, students and parents then have the option of purchasing term-long blocks of individual one-to-one music lessons. Instruments available to choose from include guitar, drums, piano, keyboard, and soundbeam. Through this, we endeavour to develop musical interests and passions.

Opportunities to Perform

We are dedicated to providing all students with the very best opportunities to fulfil their potential in all aspects of their life. To support the development of this, students have the opportunity to take part in an academy wide performance. Roles include: acting, set production, sound and lighting technician, front of house and many more.



Ormiston
Meridian Academy
Shaping Lives | Building Ambition | Igniting Futures

Personal Development Brochure



Enrichment

at Ormiston Meridian Academy

OMERA Entitlement Pledge

discover passions, talents and interests

We provide an extensive range of rich and varied experiences and opportunities through our entitlement pledge designed to develop talents, interests and an individual's cultural capital. The entitlement pledge offers a range of activities at KS3 that are designed to spark awe and wonder and appreciation of the world in which students live. OMERa offers these activities free of charge to our students.

LIVERPOOL VISIT

Why:

Students will have the opportunity to visit a range of key locations in the city of Liverpool with the aim of broadening students cultural diversity.

Achiever Value Links:

Ambition, Courage, Respect, Inspiration and Honesty

Year 9

UNIVERSITY VISIT

Why:

Enabling students to have first hand experience of a university campus.

Achiever Value Links:

Ambition and Inspiration

Year 9

FAITH VISITS

Why:

Giving students an insight into other religions within the locality of the academy

Achiever Value Links:

Respect and Tolerance

Year8

SOCIAL ACTION PROJECT

Why:

Encouraging students to work within the community that the Academy is located. Working with the community to tackle local issues.

Achiever Value Links:

Ambition, Courage, Respect, Inspiration and Honesty

Year8

IMERSIVE FRENCH EXPERIENCE

Why:

Developing confidence in speaking in French and a better understanding of the importance of languages and using language skills in a 'real' situation.

Achiever Value Links:

Inspiration, Ambition and Courage

Year8

RESIDENTIAL

Why:

Developing resilience and interpersonal skills. An opportunity to get to know students' peers and year team.

Achiever Value Links:

Ambition, Courage, Respect, Inspiration and Honesty

Year7

VISIT TO THE BEACH

Why:

Linking the curriculum to a range of career opportunities specifically biology.

Achiever Value Links:

Inspiration and Ambition

Year7

TRIP TO THE PANTO

Why:

Giving students the opportunity to experience the theatre and create life long memories.

Achiever Value Links:

Ambition, Inspiration

Year7

*Subject to change based on organisation availability



Student Leadership

be future ready

EXECUTIVE OMERA PARLIAMENT	HEAD STUDENT			
	DEPUTY HEAD STUDENT		DEPUTY HEAD STUDENT	
	SECRETARY		TREASURER	
	HEAD OF BRIDGEWATER HOUSE	HEAD OF TURING HOUSE	HEAD OF SIMMONDS HOUSE	HEAD OF YOUSAFZAI HOUSE
	DEPUTY HEAD OF BRIDGEWATER HOUSE	DEPUTY HEAD OF TURING HOUSE	DEPUTY HEAD OF SIMMONDS HOUSE	DEPUTY HEAD OF YOUSAFZAI HOUSE
	HOUSE CAPTAIN YEAR 10	HOUSE CAPTAIN YEAR 10	HOUSE CAPTAIN YEAR 10	HOUSE CAPTAIN YEAR 10
	HOUSE CAPTAIN YEAR 9	HOUSE CAPTAIN YEAR 9	HOUSE CAPTAIN YEAR 9	HOUSE CAPTAIN YEAR 9
	HOUSE CAPTAIN YEAR 8	HOUSE CAPTAIN YEAR 8	HOUSE CAPTAIN YEAR 8	HOUSE CAPTAIN YEAR 8
	HOUSE CAPTAIN YEAR 7	HOUSE CAPTAIN YEAR 7	HOUSE CAPTAIN YEAR 7	HOUSE CAPTAIN YEAR 7



Student Leadership
at Ormiston Meridian Academy

All students are given the opportunity to develop their leadership skills and personal characteristics to prepare them well for a modern and demanding world. This is delivered through our accredited leadership programme.

All our leadership activities are designed to develop our Achiever Values alongside self-confidence, resilience and personal responsibility. Within the academy we have specific roles which are fulfilled either via a staff or student vote.

OMERA was awarded Student Leadership Ambassador School Status from the SSAT in January 2021 for our commitment to developing student leadership. The award celebrates the leadership skills that students have developed in and out of school. We have made leadership education an integral part of our curriculum, supporting and encouraging students to take up positions of responsibility. The leadership team work closely with staff in order to prioritise areas that are important to both students and staff and focus on the development of the academy and the community.

OMERA Parliament: Student Leadership in Action

At Ormiston Meridian Academy, we believe that leadership is not just taught - it's lived. **The OMER A Parliament** is a cornerstone of our student leadership programme, offering students a unique opportunity to develop their leadership skills while gaining a deeper understanding of the **UK democratic system**.

The Parliament is **student-led** and meets **once per term**, providing a structured platform for student voice and civic engagement. Each **Form Captain** takes on the role of an **MP**, representing their form group and contributing to discussions that shape academy life.

Through OMER A Parliament, students:

- **Engage in democratic processes**, learning how decisions are made and policies are shaped.
- **Represent their peers**, voicing concerns, ideas and feedback from across the academy.
- **Receive updates** on academy developments, students voice outcomes, and upcoming initiatives.
- **Communicate key messages** back to their forms, ensuring transparency and inclusion.

This initiative not only strengthens leadership and communication skills but also fosters a sense of responsibility, respect, and active citizenship - core to our **Achiever Values** and the **OMERA Way**.

OMERA Parliament empowers students to be **agents of change**, preparing them to lead with integrity and purpose in their communities and beyond.

Careers

be future ready



Careers

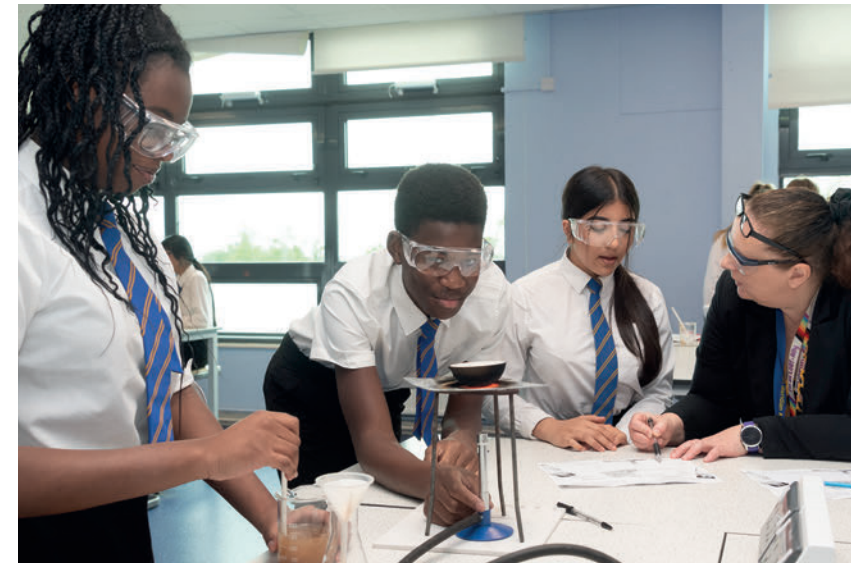
at Ormiston Meridian Academy

At OMERA students have access to a wide range of career-based activities that make up our 'World of Work' programme. We provide dedicated and personalised provision to students who require additional support when making and realising their future career aspirations. Students take part in weekly sessions dedicated to 'World of Work'. During these sessions developing a clear understanding of the world of employment. Sessions develop a number of essential soft skills enabling students to achieve their own personal aspirations and goals. Students are taught about potential career pathways.

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

The 'World of Work' programme at OMERA aims to 'ignite futures' by connecting learning to real life contexts making learning *relevant and relatable*, ensuring students are fully prepared for an everchanging 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.

OMERA achieved the 'Quality in Careers Standard' mark in June 2021. This is a nationally recognised award that assesses the effectiveness of the careers provision within our academy.



Modern Work Experience at OMERA: Preparing Students for the Future



At Ormiston Meridian Academy, we believe that meaningful exposure to the world of work is essential for preparing students for life beyond school. Our Modern Work Experience Programme is a dynamic, progressive journey that spans Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4, ensuring every student gains real-world insight and employability skills through a variety of workplace encounters.

As part of our Personal Development Curriculum, students will:

- **Engage in employer-led experiences** from Year 7 onwards, exploring wide range of industries and career pathways.
- **Participate in structured, high-quality encounters** that are aspirational, interactive, and aligned with the Gatsby Benchmarks.
- **Undertake a full week, of work experience** in Year 10, tailored to their interests and career aspirations, offering hands-on insight into the modern workplace.

Our approach, inspired by the Equalex framework, ensures that all students - regardless of background - access ten days of meaningful work experience by the end of Year 11.

These experiences are designed to:

- **Develop self-awareness and essential workplace skills.**
- **Build confidence and communication.**
- **Foster ambition and resilience**

By connecting education with industry early and often, OMERA's Modern Work Experience Programme empowers students to make informed choices and thrive in the future world of work.



Careers Education Entitlement

At Ormiston Meridian Academy, we believe that every student deserves meaningful exposure to the world of work to prepare them for life beyond school. Our **Careers Education Entitlement** guarantees that **all students will experience at least five dedicated days of careers-focused activities** during their time at the academy as well as taking part in a dedicated **week of work experience** in year 10.

These sessions are designed to:

- Provide **encounters with workplaces** and real-world environments.
- Enable students to **meet and speak with employees** from a wide range of sectors.
- Support informed decision-making about future pathways, including further education, apprenticeships, and employment.

This entitlement is delivered through our **World of Work programme** and **Modern Work Experience**, which align with the **Gatsby Benchmarks** for world-class careers guidance. Students will:

- Engage in employer-led experiences from Year 7 onwards.
- Participate in structured encounters that are aspirational and interactive.
- Complete a full week of work experience in Year 10, tailored to their interests.

Why Careers Education Matters

Research consistently shows that high-quality careers education has a profound impact on student outcomes:

- **Improved academic engagement and motivation:** Career exploration helps students see the relevance of learning, increasing motivation and reducing anxiety about the future.
- **Higher employability and earnings:** Students who participate in career and technical education or structured career guidance are more likely to graduate, secure employment, and earn more in early careers.
- **Reduced risk of becoming NEET (Not in Education, Employment or Training):** Schools with strong careers programmes see up to a 20% reduction in NEET rates among disadvantaged students.
- **Employer engagement benefits:** Multiple encounters with employers (four or more) significantly increase young people's confidence, aspirations, and future earnings.
- **Workplace experiences build essential skills:** Immersive work experiences develop technical skills, communication, teamwork, and adaptability - critical for success in modern careers.



Our Partnerships & Opportunities

We are proud to work with a wide range of industries and businesses to provide students with authentic experiences and insights into the world of work. Examples of our partners include: **The Armed Services, Stoke City Football Club, Keele University, Staffordshire University, Oxford University, Newcastle Stafford College Group, Stoke Sixth Form, Stoke-on-Trent College, Amazon, Regent Theatre, University Hospitals of North Midlands,** to name just a few.



Through these partnerships, we offer a variety of activities and opportunities **completely free of charge**. Every student has access to an overview of each careers-related trip and activity they undertake via their personal **Unifrog account**, ensuring they can track and reflect on their experiences throughout their time at the academy.

Our Commitment

By embedding careers education into our Personal Development curriculum, we ensure that every student:

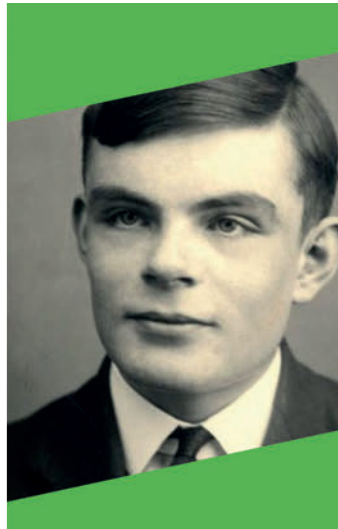
- Gains **real-world insight** into diverse industries.
- Develop **soft skills** such as communication, resilience, and problem-solving.
- Leaves OMERA **future-ready**, equipped to thrive in an ever-changing job market.



Houses of OMERA

contribute to a united community

At Ormiston Meridian Academy, we endeavour to create a truly cohesive environment that provides students of all ages with a real sense of community and belonging, the ability to develop teamwork, 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, which are designed to embed and uphold our academy's values.



Houses of OMERA
at Ormiston Meridian Academy





SMSC

at Ormiston Meridian Academy

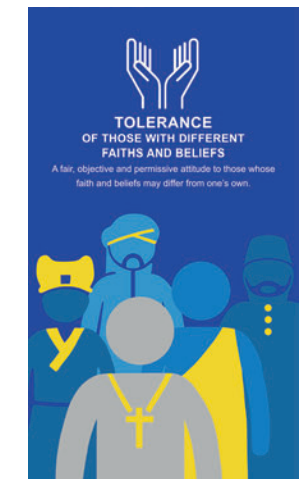
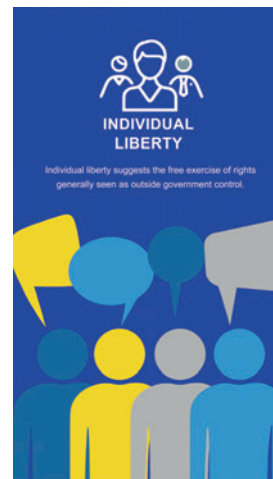
SMSC

contribute to a united community

The delivery of social, moral, spiritual, and cultural topics during form times based on the news is an important aspect of education that helps foster a well-rounded and informed OMERA student. By discussing current events and their implications. Students are able to develop critical thinking skills, empathy towards others, and an understanding of the world around them. These discussions provide an opportunity to explore fundamental British Values such as democracy, individual liberty, mutual respect, and tolerance for those with different beliefs or backgrounds. By engaging in these conversations, students gain broader perspective and become active participants in shaping a just and inclusive society. With the news as a catalyst, form time becomes a platform for meaningful discussions that contribute to the holistic development of students.

In addition to form time and assembly sessions we teach the British Values of: democracy, individual liberty, the rule of law, mutual respect, tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs throughout the curriculum. Our 'Achiever Values' link closely with Fundamental British Values.

Every curriculum area within the academy has a detailed overview of how they promote Fundamental British Values in their lessons. Details of these are available upon request.



Culture and Diversity

contribute to a united community



Culture and Diversity
at Ormiston Meridian Academy

Promoting diversity at Ormiston Meridian Academy is a paramount objective in order to create an inclusive and enriching learning environment for all students. With a dedicated commitment to upholding principles of equality, the academy actively encourages diverse cultures, perspectives, and backgrounds to thrive within its community. By incorporating inclusive educational practices into its curriculum, the academy ensures that it caters to the individual needs and strengths of every student. Moreover, initiatives such as multicultural assemblies and awareness campaigns on cultural heritage foster an appreciation for diversity among students and staff alike. Through partnerships with local organisations and engaging in dialogues about social issues, the academy actively addresses challenges surrounding diversity and inclusion head-on. By promoting acceptance, understanding, and respect for all individuals, Ormiston Meridian Academy creates a nurturing environment where all students feel valued and empowered to succeed academically, as well as personally.

Examples of how we develop culture and diversity can be seen on this page:



Specifically chosen titles that are read during the academy's Reading Widely and Often programme designed to foster conversation and debate around culture and diversity.



Cultural and religious celebrations around key dates such as Black History Month, Ramadan, Christmas etc.

Introduction of a Multifaith room for use by students and staff.



Curriculum audits to ensure that a range of topics, information, stories and cultural heritage is discussed regularly.



Dedicated 'Culture and Diversity' house competitions.

Student Voice

be future ready



Student Voice at Ormiston Meridian Academy

The voice of our students plays an important part in the successful running of the academy. There are many avenues through which students can voice their views, both informally and formally. From running for a Student Leadership position such as a Form Captain, as well as participating in dedicated student surveys, we want every student to know that their voice is heard and valued.

'Student Voice' also provides opportunities for students to engage with the wider community, by supporting charities through fundraisers, raising the profile of the academy within the local community and opportunities to participate in areas of our Student Leadership Programme. Students have the chance for their voices to be amplified, making an impact beyond our four walls.

YOU SAID

54% OF STUDENTS
WANTED ADDITIONAL
FOOTBALL CLUBS

WE DID ...

"We are offering Football
for years 9&10 every
Thursday 3:14 - 4:15pm

Girls Football for years 7-11
every Thursday 3:15 - 4:15pm

Boys Football years 7 - 11
every Thursday 3:15 - 4:15pm

YOU SAID

54% OF STUDENTS
SAID YOU WANTED A
WIDER RANGE OF FREE
CLUBS TO BE OFFERED

WE DID ...

"We have a large selection
of free clubs on offer at both
lunchtime and afterschool"

YOU SAID

45% OF STUDENTS
ASKED FOR A CRICKET
CLUB

WE DID ...

"We are offering a cricket
club for years 7-11 every
Thursday 3:15 - 4:15pm"





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