



NEW Year 7 Parent Booklet

2025

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A warm welcome

We are delighted that your child will be joining Ormiston NEW Academy next year. Our academy is a school in which students experience a fun, challenging and knowledge-rich curriculum which will make them successful in five years time. Our commitment to you is to ensure we guide and support them based on our values of pride, endeavour and together.

We have a wide range of exciting subjects for your child to study, please do look at our website to discover your child's learning journey from KS3 on into KS4 and KS5. Our staff work together with our students to support them to work hard, learn new things and ultimately be proud of their individual and collective successes.

We do recognise that, for parents, this is a worrying and overwhelming time and if you have any concerns or questions please do not hesitate to contact us. Mrs Smedley-Baugh, the Primary Transition Co-Ordinator, will allay any fears and make sure the transition is one which is both reassuring and successful.

If you would like to know more about the Academy, or if you would like to visit us please do not hesitate to get in touch with Mrs Smedley-Baugh on transition@onewa.co.uk

We look forward to developing a strong and supportive relationship to ensure the best possible future for your child.

Mr Craig Cooling
Principal



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An outstanding approach to transition



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What does transition to secondary school involve?

You may not be aware, but 'transition' for most students has already begun.

Over the course of the Spring and Summer terms, our staff will go into each partner primary school and talk to each Year 6 teacher. This will be a confidential conversation to help us determine how to best support your son/daughter when they arrive at the academy in September. This discussion will focus on levels of academic achievement but will include factors such as friendship groups and personality to ensure that each individual student can be placed in the most suitable form, set and house for them.

For any students requiring extra support, this conversation will lead onto an additional meeting with the school SENCO, Mrs Greaves, so that a tailored care package can be organised and put into effect before the start of the new school year.

We will work with you and your child to arrange extra visits for pupils who are particularly nervous about the move and those pupils who are coming from primary schools where only a small number of children are transferring from.

Transition does not end on the first day in September. During the first week of your child's schooling with us they will have additional sessions which will help them settle in. During the Autumn term you will be invited to a transition evening where you will be able to see what your child has accomplished in their first half term with us. By this time students are well settled and those initial nerves (from both students and parents) will have long gone.



Mrs C Greaves
Senior Leader For
Inclusion & SENCO
CGreaves@onewa.co.uk



Things you need to know

Lesson Times

Monday

Start	End	Activity
8.35am	9.05am	Form Time
9.05am	11.05am	Lesson 1
11.05am	11.20am	Break
11.20am	1.20pm	Lesson 3
1.20pm	2.05pm	Lunch
2.05pm	4.05pm	Lesson 3

Tuesday - Thursday

Start	End	Activity
8.35am	9.20am	Form Time
9.20am	11.20am	Lesson 1
11.20am	11.35am	Break
11.35am	1.35pm	Lesson 3
1.35pm	2.20pm	Lunch
2.20pm	3.20pm	Lesson 3

Friday

Start	End	Activity
8.35am	8.50am	Form Time
8.50am	10.05am	Lesson 1
10.50am	11.20am	Lunch
11.20am	1.20pm	Lesson 2

Lunch Time and Snacks

A 'meal deal' can be purchased from the canteen. This offer includes a hot lunch, a small cake or a piece of fruit and a drink.

The academy operates a "Cashless Catering" system where students each have their own personal account which they can top up with coins and notes via a machine in school. Purchases can then be made in the canteen using the biometric system.

Please note that fizzy drinks/energy drinks are not permitted in school and will be confiscated and disposed of.

There are water coolers available around the academy site. We encourage students to bring a reusable bottle to school.



School uniform



- Academy blazer
- Academy tie (gifted)
- White shirt (long or short sleeve but not open neck)
- Black tailored trousers
- Academy Kilt
- Black or grey socks or tights
- Black leather school shoes
- School jumper (optional)
- All jewellery must be removed for PE
- Plain black headscarf (optional)





Footwear

Plain black leather or leather style shoes only. Canvas, trainers, trainer-style and shoes with bright logos or laces are not permitted.

School bag and equipment

Students must arrive at the academy fully equipped to learn. All students must have a school bag, pencil case and be equipped with a pen, pencil, ruler and reading book.

A scientific calculator is also of benefit for students to familiarise themselves with using the same equipment when at home as in school.



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Celebrating Students' Success at NEW

The Vision

- To have our students leave school with confidence and a hunger for success
- Steer students on to appropriate career paths
- Nurture students' intrinsic values
- Creatively work with students to develop a growth mindset
- Recognise all achievements, the big or small, in all aspects of the students' life

How will we recognise this?

Students will receive a range of praise and reward, this will depend on the type of achievement. Rewards and praise range from positive comments through teacher feedback to text messages and postcards home.

We also hold termly events, recognising effort and progress, in which parents are invited to celebrate with us.

A firm favourite with our current students has been the termly rewards experiences, where students going above and beyond will be invited to take part in bowling trips, theatre visits and even theme park visits for those who can also maintain high levels of attendance!



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Attendance and Punctuality



Attendance

The national figures for attendance at secondary school are expected to be over **97%** for each individual student. If attendance falls below this figure, then a support package will be put in place by NEW to help your child improve their attendance.

Punctuality

The academy's school day starts at 8.35am, to ensure a prompt start to form time students must ensure they are in their form room by this time.



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What can you do to help?



Induction Days

Ensure that your son/daughter is able to attend their Induction Days, as these events are key in enabling pupils to feel more confident about starting secondary school.



Chat

Talk through any worries your son/daughter may have about starting secondary school. Reassure your son/daughter that feeling nervous is completely normal and everyone else will be feeling exactly the same.



Enrichment

Encourage your child to attend enrichment clubs. All activities will be introduced to students with a timetable during the first term.

Prepare

Ensure that your child has all their uniform and equipment sorted before September and knows how to get to school and has their route/travel arrangements planned in advance, to avoid anxiety on the first day.



Attendance

Ensure and encourage good attendance. Attendance is essential to a child's academic progression, but it is also significant to the transition process. If a child misses the first few days, they may find starting secondary school even more daunting, as others will have already started to form friendships, find their way around and complete work.



Read with your child

Academic research shows that reading ability and high comprehension levels underpin all other aspects of learning. Supporting your child with their reading will undoubtedly give them a boost with their class work.



Frequently Asked Questions

Q The school is an academy, what does it mean?

An Academy (in the education system in England) is a school that is directly funded by central government (the Department for Education) and is independent of local government control. The benefit of this is that we receive more funding from the government, which we are free to deploy as we see fit. This means that we can employ more staff to teach and support your children or purchase extra resources, like computers or books to help them to make progress. We are also able to subsidise many trips, such as theatre and sporting events.

Q Who are Ormiston?

Ormiston are our sponsors. Ormiston was founded by the Murray family following the tragic death of Fiona Ormiston Murray in a car crash on her honeymoon in 1969. They wanted to create a living memorial to a woman who loved children, but was denied the chance to have her own. Ormiston opened its first service in 1981, the Robert Milne Family Centre, a former Barnardo's home in Ipswich. In 1992 Ormiston Children and Families Trust was established to manage the increasingly diverse direct service provision to children, young people and families. Partnerships with 'Save The Children Fund' and the prison service led to new and innovative work to support families across the region. Ormiston is now the biggest children's charity in the East of England, with services in Essex, Suffolk, Norfolk, Cambridgeshire, Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire and London.

Q My child has special education needs, what do I need to do to ensure that they receive support?

Any students with SEND will already be identified to us from our liaison with Year 6 teachers. This allows us to plan ahead for any support that may be needed, including gathering information from outside agencies and making provision for any other support that may be required. We have an excellent SENCO, Mrs Greaves who is available to discuss any of your concerns. Please be assured that your child will receive excellent SEND support at NEW.



What is PSHE?

Personal, social, health and economic (PSHE) education is a planned programme of learning opportunities and experiences that help children and young people grow and develop as individuals, as members of families and of social and economic communities. PSHE forms part of the national curriculum and is delivered to all students across all year groups. The programme is designed to be age appropriate in all content delivered.

PSHE is extremely important as students who are emotionally healthy often perform better at school. PSHE helps children and young people to achieve their potential by supporting their wellbeing and tackling issues that can affect their ability to learn, such as anxiety and unhealthy relationships.

What if my child gets bullied?

The academy operates a zero tolerance policy on bullying and any such issues are treated seriously and investigated accordingly. Students attending NEW create and sign an anti-bullying pledge in Year 7 and regularly take part in bullying awareness activities throughout their time at school, to highlight the different forms and effects of bullying. Students are encouraged to talk to their form tutors, heads of year and class teachers at any time about anything concerning them. If you suspect your child is experiencing difficulties with another student, please contact their form tutor immediately so that intervention can be initiated.

What if my child currently receives free school meals? Will this continue at NEW?

Yes. If your child currently receives free school meals, this will continue.

To apply for free school meals, you will need to provide the school with:

- your full name
- date of birth
- and National Insurance (NI) number or National Asylum Support Service (NASS) reference number



My child needs extra support with their work, how will it happen?

The type of support required is determined by the nature of the child's individual need. Support can be offered in class through teaching assistants, during the enrichment session at the end of the day, or via withdrawal (at specific times) to attend individual programmes of support. All students are assessed based on their needs and subject teachers will adapt their lessons and differentiate accordingly. We have a dedicated group in Year 7 that runs like a primary school class, in that students have the majority of their lessons in one classroom with one teacher. This group is designed specifically for children who need intensive levels of support, particularly regarding their literacy and numeracy skills.

What happens if my child is off school?

In the case of illness you must contact the academy on 01902 623111 as early as possible, no later than 8.20am, on the morning of your child's absence (and every day that they are absent, unless stated in previous phone call that your child may be off for a certain number of days). You are required to send a letter to your child's Form Tutor on their return explaining the reason for their absence. If you fail to contact school regarding your child's absence, you will receive a phone call informing you that your son/daughter is absent and enquiring about the reason why. Sniffles, coughs and light colds are to be expected in a secondary school – we do not expect students to take time off for minor ailments and try to get them into a good work ethic from day one.



GET IN TOUCH

CONTACT US

If you have any questions or would like more information about anything mentioned in this booklet, please contact Mrs Smedley-Baugh



Transition@onewa.co.uk



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