ORMISTON SWB ACADEMY

PROSPECTUS
Character | Organisation | Resilience | Excellence

[Image of students at a table]

[Image of building and garden]

[Logo of OAT]
Welcome

It is with pride that I welcome you to Ormiston SWB Academy. This is an Academy where aspirations are raised and lives are transformed. I am delighted that you are considering our Academy and I hope that you will want to apply for a place at SWB once you have found out a little more about us. I urge you to spend time looking at our website www.ormistonswbacademy.org.uk, as this will tell you a lot about us and give you a feel for what our Academy is like.

Under new leadership at the Academy, with improving results in 2019 in all areas, this is an exciting time to be a student at Ormiston SWB Academy. We have an oversubscribed school with a diverse and enthusiastic student intake, an outstanding £25 million building with state of the art facilities and a fully supportive Senior Leadership Team.

Our Academy motto is “Learning for Life, Securing success”, which shows our commitment to ensuring all children achieve the best academic results and also master the skills they need to have happy and successful lives. We work hard to ensure that lessons are engaging and motivating, but also that students have lots of opportunities to engage in activities, events and visits outside the classroom.

We take the responsibility of educating our students and supporting them to develop into a well-rounded responsible adult very seriously.

Please do contact us for a visit to the school if you are unable to attend one of our Academy open days.

We look forward to welcoming you to Ormiston SWB Academy.

Yours Sincerely

Mr Rod Hughes | Principal
Our Sponsor

Ormiston Academies Trust (OAT)

Our academy is a member of Ormiston Academies Trust (OAT) – a not-for-profit, multi-academy Trust, which sponsors 37 primary and secondary academies across England, delivering high-quality education to 28,000 young people.

Each academy is led and run by the principal and senior leaders and as OAT believes that every academy and community is unique, it does not take a one size fits all approach. It provides a balance of focused support and challenge, a breadth of opportunities, and it enables us to collaborate with academies across the network, to share best practice and to ensure we benefit from the wealth of expertise.

Everyone in the OAT family shares the same vision – to be wholly committed to young people, ensuring that they have access to the highest academic, social and practical skills required to achieve their full potential, whether going on to study at a leading university or entering the world of work. We are all determined to become part of the Trust that makes the biggest difference, both inside and outside the classroom.

The impact is clear – with more than three quarters of the academies being rated ‘Good’ or ‘Outstanding’ by Ofsted since joining the Trust. For many years, OAT has successfully raised academic standards, including in disadvantaged communities, and the Trust is committed to ensuring that all children and young people across the academies benefit from the high-quality education being delivered across the network.

OAT has been recognised as one of the top performing education providers in the country by government, placing OAT as the fifth best in England for primary school performance, out of 153 multi-academy trusts.

OAT’s strategic direction comes from its Board of Trustees, who have a wealth of experience in the education sector. The Trust is also guided by its founding body, Ormiston Trust, which is a national charity founded by the Murray family in 1969 to improve the life-chances of children and young people so they can fulfil their potential and lead happy and productive lives. The family takes an active role in OAT and every one of its academies.
Our Outstanding Facilities

Ormiston SWB Academy moved into a brand new state-of-the-art building in September 2012. The building provides an amazing and inspiring environment for students, teachers and the community. It has won national awards for its transformational design.

Its dramatic design incorporates a superbly equipped performance hall, dance studio, lecture theatre, a state-of-the-art engineering hall, and a range of stylish indoor and outdoor cafe and dining spaces.

The building design gives an amazing view of both the surroundings and of the interior with dramatic double and triple height spaces. The interior spaces are complemented by thoughtfully designed school grounds: with grass sports pitches, a full size artificial astroturf grass pitch,, a multi use games area, an eco-garden and a series of 'outdoor gardens’, as well as providing the students immediate access and use of the superb facilities at the neighbouring Bert Williams Leisure Centre.

All of our facilities combine to provide students with an inspirational, exceptional place to learn and grow.
Our Vision & Values

Ormiston SWB Academy students are expected to demonstrate a vast array of characteristics that will prepare them for future success.

Our values clearly signal to staff, students and parents the core values of Character, Organisation, Resilience and Excellence which ensure our Academy is a focused, happy and a safe place to learn and achieve.

Our values are supported by our brand new C.O.R.E Futures Programme. This is aimed at giving students the opportunity to have experiences, which deepen knowledge, embed skills and strengthen character. Through Years 7 to 13, students will study and take part in an enrichment program including visits, courses, events and activities alongside their timetabled lessons.

Staff and students embody these values every day; we are dedicated to creating an inclusive environment with a family atmosphere.

Everything we do is driven by our commitment to provide our students with the highest standards of learning and teaching. In return we have very high expectations of student behaviour and their achievements.

At Ormiston SWB Academy we believe in appreciating traditional values and embracing innovation. We believe that with nurture and hard work every child has the potential to succeed.

“Learning for Life, Securing Success”

Ormiston SWB Academy students pride themselves on belonging to a highly successful and vibrant learning community where respect and high expectations mean that they thrive academically, socially and personally.
Our Curriculum

Students are taught a broad and balanced range of subjects to give them the widest possible choice when it comes to selecting GCSEs and their future career.

In addition, personalised progression routes mean that students select courses and qualifications appropriate to their needs, ability and goals.

In Year 7 and Year 8 we are focused on ensuring students master skills in numeracy, literacy and ICT whilst also developing the life skills they need to become responsible young adults. Alongside this, students study English, Maths, Science, Technology, ICT, Humanities, PE, Creative & Performing Arts and Modern Foreign Languages. Students also participate in a weekly ‘Learning for Life’ lesson which encompasses skills and knowledge to develop themselves as learners and as members of the wider community.

Students are expected to try new activities: from Outward Bound to participating in an Academy theatre production in our state-of-the-art performance hall; from designing, building and launching their own rockets to nail art; from repairing and restoring mountain bikes to participating in a huge choice of sports at the Bert Williams Leisure Centre which sits adjacent to the Academy building.

We run a two-year Key Stage 3 programme, so as they progress into Year 9, students can begin GCSEs. Students have access to a vast range of subjects so that they are able to pursue their goals which may be in further education, or training. We work with parents to provide individual information, advice and guidance to support students in making the right choices and to achieve their potential.*
We believe in the importance of enrichment. By this, we mean opportunities outside of the classroom which support learning and personal development and allow our students to make more friends and have fun!

There is an extensive Enrichment Programme for all students throughout the Academy. For Years 7 to 10, this is timetabled into their normal working week and students will participate in a wide range of activities. In addition, there is a range of after-school clubs in activities such as performing and creative arts, sports and PE.

We run a wide variety of educational visits throughout the academic year to expand learning opportunities by visiting places such as “Think Tank”, the Black Country Living Museum, sports venues, historical castles and the theatre. We also have recreational visits through House reward activities such as visiting theme parks, cinema and bowling, and residential visits to places including Spain, South Africa and New Zealand.

We challenge all of our students to try something new and to make the most of every wonderful opportunity which being a student at Ormiston SWB Academy brings.
Students are supported on a day to day basis by the Year Team. This comprises of a Head of Year and Deputy Head of Year who focus on achievement, behaviour, attendance and other pastoral issues.

Students attend form groups within their year group and enjoy a breadth of learning for life and enrichment opportunities during tutor time. The Form Tutor is a vital, single point of contact for parents so that communication and support is effective.

On entry to the Academy students join one of four houses: Sanderson, Weston, Brindley or Attwood. The House system provides the opportunity for competition and challenges where students enjoy the skills required to socialise well with peers, work within a team and embrace the competitive nature of sports and academic challenges. Our inter-house competitions ensure that all students regularly interact and enjoy the more sociable, fun side of being a student at Ormiston SWB Academy.

Our Year Teams get to know every individual student very well and build strong working relationship with parents to enable you to join in celebrating your child's success and discuss any concerns you may have.

In addition, we have Senior Directors over Lower School and Upper School, responsible for leading their school to ensure that students are “Learning for Life and Securing Success” through high expectations academically, and embracing the Academy’s ethos.

The Academy understands that at times students may make choices which do not meet the high expectations of the Academy. The Student Support Services Senior Director is responsible for ensuring that all students who are referred to the team for intervention, receive the best possible opportunities advice and guidance.
The “Raising the Participation Age” initiative as set out by the Government in 2014/2015 requires students to stay in education in some form until they are 18. With this in mind, we have developed a Sixth Form curriculum which provides excellent progression routes from Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 into the study of A Levels and other Level 3 qualifications.

Our high expectations are equally important for our Sixth Form students who are role models for other youngsters in the Academy. Sixth Formers take an active leadership role and earn the right to be treated as young adults, demonstrating excellent behaviour and attendance and a total commitment to their learning. They recognise their responsibility as senior students in the Academy and work hard to support younger students to achieve their best.

Facilities for Sixth Formers are outstanding. We have a dedicated Sixth Form suite consisting of an ICT Study Centre, first-class learning and enrichment spaces and social areas in our new building, all fully resourced to support every student to achieve the highest results and enjoy their time with us.

Students in our Sixth Form have every opportunity for a first class education with many choosing to progress onto degree courses in universities such as Wolverhampton, Keele, Brunel and Nottingham etc. At a time when there is stiff competition for university places, Ormiston SWB Academy gives its students the high quality education and support they need to be successful, with 90% of those going to university achieving their first choice place.

All Sixth Form students are expected to wear full business dress. They also have the choice of a range of equipment or enrichment activities to maximise their personalised learning opportunities.

For more information on our Sixth Form please refer to our Sixth Form Prospectus.
Ormiston SWB Academy

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