



Ormiston Victory Academy

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Dear Parents/Carers

Your child is fast approaching the end of their time at Ormiston Victory Academy. Year 11 can be an exciting, as well as stressful time for students, as they face their final exams and decisions about their future. Added to the fact that due to the recent unforeseen circumstances, it has also meant that your child has missed a period of their GCSE course, we feel it is vital that we have an experienced Year 11 team in place in order to support your child through their final GCSE year.

We write to you in order to outline the expectations and support available for all students. Firstly, an introduction to our Year 11 team that your child will be supported by throughout Year 11:

Mr Willis - Assistant Principal for Raising Achievement



I am Assistant Principal for Student Progress at Ormiston Victory Academy. I have worked at Ormiston Victory Academy as Assistant Principal for student's GCSE outcomes for the past 3 years. I am proud that the grades and progress that students achieve at Victory continue to improve year on year. Your child is now approaching their final and most important year of their education so far and I am excited and highly motivated in supporting them throughout Year 11, to ensure that they achieve the best grades they possibly can. The minimum expectation is that your child tries their best and takes full advantage of the additional intervention and support which they will receive as a Year 11 student. Your child's attendance to school and lessons is also vital. Your support as parents and carers will also be vital in ensuring that your child is given the best possible chance in fulfilling their potential. If you have any concerns or questions throughout Year 11, I encourage you to contact myself or a member of the Year 11 team.

Mr Cole – Director for Raising Achievement



As Director for Raising Achievement, it is my aim and priority to ensure that your child succeeds to their full academic potential. I have specialised in intervention and attainment over the past twelve years and have implemented a range of strategies, resources and support systems to allow our students to remain focussed and supported within the academy. As a previous Head of Year 11 I know how demanding and challenging this year will be for students and intend to lead, collaborate and support the Year 11 team to ensure that your child gets the best possible experience and education this year. Through a range of engaging and enriching lessons,

interventions, revision seminars and resources produced across the year, it is my aim to ensure that we give your child the best academic support and resources available to succeed and be ready for their next steps after their secondary education has been completed.

Head of Year 11- Miss Aves



I have absolutely loved being Head of Year for the last two years and I am so pleased that I get to carry the year group through until the very end! The relationships I have built with both the students and yourselves as parents over the last two years are going to be instrumental in ensuring that the students achieve academically and fulfil their potential. It is more important than ever, especially with the time missed in Year 10, that students are on-track to achieve what they deserve and leave here with the grades and skills they need to in order to move on to their next step in their education.

It is equally as important that your child feels supported at all times, whether it is an academic worry or a more general well-being concern, which I am also here for. Thank you for your continued support so far, please do not hesitate to get in touch and good luck to yourself and your child for the year ahead!

Senior Head of Year 11 Behaviour - Miss Burke



Having been the Head of Year for Behaviour for this year group since year 7, I have had the pleasure of meeting or speaking with most of you over the past four school years. I am thrilled to be able to see your child through to Year 11.

I will continue to ensure that students maintain the high behavioural expectations we have for them whilst supporting their wellbeing and resilience, especially as any exam pressures take hold. I will continue to be here to listen to students and to help and encourage them to be the best versions of themselves as they complete their final year with us.

I am looking forward to a positive and successful year!

Mrs Coby - Victory Intervention Program Mentor



I have been in my present role as a Year 11 Intervention Mentor at Ormiston Victory Academy for several years now, therefore, have experience of a wide range of situations that can present during a student's final year at the Academy.

As mentors, we support our students in a variety of ways including, but not limited to, whole lesson support, small groups and one to one intervention. We have regular meetings with mentored students doing whatever is needed to support them with their studies, working towards their exams to achieve their very best and reach their target grades.

We have an approachable manner and we know Year 11 can be extra stressful for students, so we encourage them to come and speak to us in the Victory Intervention Suite if they have any concerns regarding school and their studies.

Miss Cork - Victory Intervention Programme Mentor



September will mark the start of my fifth year at Ormiston Victory Academy and will be my second as a VIP Mentor. I have had a couple of different roles within the academy, which has given me the experience of working with a variety of students across all key stages. I have now settled in with the Year 11 Team and am excited to support the Year 11 students through their final GCSE year. As it wasn't too long ago that I was in their shoes, at this very academy, I like to think of myself as someone the students can relate to and rely on, as the academic and social stresses of their final year can be overwhelming. I am absolutely thrilled to be supporting them through their final year of secondary school.

Extra Support & Intervention

Since we understand that Year 11 can be a stressful time for students and parents, from early on in the academic year we put in place extra support for all students.

Introduction of Period 6 lessons (2.45pm - 3.45pm)

In order to fully support our Year 11 students and give them the best possible chance of success in their exams and their future, we introduce a compulsory period 6 lesson from 2.45pm until 3.45pm. It is an expectation of the academy that all Year 11 students attend all timetabled period 6 sessions. Having introduced this several years ago, we have taken the pressure off students by offering structured revision sessions or independent learning to help prepare them for their exams.

Every Monday, **all** of Year 11 will have a timetabled option subject lesson from 2.45pm - 3.45pm. This is an hour of option block C, therefore, cannot be rearranged under any circumstances. The other days will be directed by teachers and the Intervention Team so they will be personalised. If students have a valid reason why they cannot attend a period 6 intervention session, they need to speak to Mr Willis or Miss Aves in the first instance.

If there are any issues with transport after period 6, students need to come and discuss this with the VIP Team in the VIP room on the first floor of the main building, and we will support

however we can. All being well, depending on government guidelines, your child will receive their new P6 timetable during the first few weeks back (following a settling in to Year 11 period) after the summer holiday. We will confirm the official start date for P6 lessons as soon as we are able to and once students are back to attending school full time. Period 6 lessons are then reviewed on a half termly basis, with new timetables being issued to students before each half term break. The VIP room, supervised by the Year 11 Team, will also be open during P7 (3.45pm – 4.45pm) Monday to Friday.

The overview plan for P6 lessons is as follows:

Year 11 P6 Timetable 2020-2021				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Option Block C curriculum timetabled lesson	Mathematics (priority) & options subjects	English (priority) & options subjects	Science (priority) & options subjects	Option subjects

Progress Support Session - Wednesday Period 7

Progress support was a great success in Year 10 and we will be continuing with this into and throughout Year 11. In Year 11, progress support will run from 3.45pm to 4.45pm (P7) on a Wednesday. Like with P6 lessons, we are hoping that this will start up after a few weeks into the new term (depending on government guidelines). Students are also welcome to attend progress support without being referred by one of their teachers.

Subject teachers or curriculum leaders may refer a student to the progress support session for any of the following reasons:

- A student has not completed their homework by the deadline which was set.
- A student does not perform to the expected levels in an assessment.
- A student has a coursework deadline looming and has work to complete.
- A student is not on track to achieve their target grade.
- A student has had time off school and could catch up with the learning that they have missed.
- A student did not complete the expected amount of work in a lesson.

Evening, Saturday and Holiday Sessions

The academy is committed to ensuring the best outcomes for all students. For this reason, there are times throughout the year where students are invited to attend evening, Saturday and holiday sessions. Previous students have found these sessions very beneficial and highly recommend them. Letters to parents and carers will be sent when these sessions are running, so dates and times are clear.

Moving On

In order to support students moving on from Year 11, there will be sessions during Form Time and PSHE lessons where students will create CVs and explore interview techniques. Students will also be given the opportunity to look at and apply for courses via the Help You Choose website. This is for courses run both at Ormiston Victory Academy and externally. The decisions students start making during Year 11 are very important ones and students may require guidance to help them with this. To request a one-to-one appointment with the Careers Adviser, please do get in contact with Mr Arger on:

careersguidance@ormistonvictoryacademy.co.uk.

Raising Achievement Evenings

If Government guidelines allow, during the year, the Year 11 Team hosts Raising Achievement evenings for parents, carers and students. These evenings provide important exam information as well as extra support and the ways in which you can help your child at home. Letters for each of these evenings will be sent out a few weeks before the day. Thank you to everyone who attended the Raising Achievement Evening which was led by Mr Duncan and Miss Aves in Year 10.

Expectations & Attendance

Positive behaviour plays a key part in order for students to be successful in their final exams. We expect all students to put in 100% effort in all lessons, attend sessions offered by staff, wear the correct uniform and behave in accordance with the Ormiston Victory Academy Behaviour Policy. It is also an expectation that students' attendance is above (as a minimum) 95% across the academic year. Where this is not the case, the Attendance Team and the Year 11 Team will be in touch to discuss this and support you with ways to improve your child's attendance. Good attendance is key to achieving good results, therefore, we continue to use the Fast Track process and the Fixed Penalty Notice system in Year 11 in order to ensure attendance is not a barrier to success.

Behaviour

In Year 11, we expect to fully focus on the education of our students. Therefore, we expect behaviour to be exceptional at all times. We will not allow poor behaviour to affect the learning of any student, nor do we expect to be dealing with friendship issues or issues with social networking in lesson time. We expect all students to be in all lessons, learning. With this in mind, all behaviour issues will be dealt with in a timely manner, consistently and fairly. Students will be issued with consequences if their behaviour falls below the expected level, in line with the new Ready to Learn Policy. Students will be issued behaviour plans or will be expected to sign behaviour contracts if their behaviour consistently falls below the expected level.

Changes to existing after school detentions

Any Year 11 student who does not attend a P6 or progress support session (without a genuine reason as to why, provided in writing by their parent / carer) will be given an

additional hour of catch up for each on a Monday P7 and P8 (3.45pm – 4.45pm, 4.45pm - 5.45pm). During these hours, it is an expectation for all students to be working on coursework or revision. This ensures that this time is utilised as effectively as possible.

Failure to attend a Monday Period 7/Period 8 academic catch up session will result in an inclusion day at the earliest possible convenience by way of consequence.

Any student who has to be sent out of a lesson on any given day will follow the Ready to Learn Policy which you will be notified of in due course.

Form Time

In Year 11, Form Time becomes a very important part of the academy day. Not only is important information, such as exam information, distributed, it also becomes additional learning time. During Form Time, some Year 11 students will work in very small groups with an English, Mathematics or Science teacher, in order to receive extra support in their core subjects. Over the last couple of years, this has proved very useful for students and they have really benefited from it. Other students will be given study time in order to independently revise for their upcoming exams. The table below shows additional support that your child will receive as part of the Year 11 Form Time programme. If a student is late to Form Time (after 8.40am) without a valid reason, there will be a consequence issued in line with the Academy Late Policy. It is more important than ever for students to be punctual and we thank you in advance for your support with this.

Year 11 Form Time				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Assembly	Sixth form/ careers support	Revision techniques/ Independent revision	Citizenship	Intervention /Independent revision

Revision

The academy has invested in a range of revision material and resources that you child should already have access to and use frequently. It is crucial during this last year of secondary education that your child is revising independently outside of the classroom and in addition to the intervention offered to them. Students should have login details for a range of online platforms such as GCSEPOD, Method Maths, Mathswatch and Seneca Learning. All of these online platforms are designed to help students revise independently, linking each skill to the GCSE syllabus.

In addition to this, during the last Raising Achievement Evening in Year 10, students were offered the opportunity to purchase from the academy a range of selected revision guides

linked to the GCSE specification. Many students do now have access to these and should be using these frequently to prepare for their examinations. If your child has not yet purchased these, or would like option subject revision guides, there will be another opportunity to do so at the start of Year 11. We strongly recommend that these resources are purchased as they will support your child in preparing fully for their end of year exams.

To support students in preparation for their examinations and the mass of content that they have to recall, the academy has also launched the Victory Vitals: Book of Knowledge incentive. You will receive further information regarding this incentive. In summary, each half term, students will receive this revision resource with a range of personalised Knowledge Organisers with the key core knowledge that students will need to know for their examination. Each half term students will be quizzed at some point towards the end of the unit to give an indication of their progress and to highlight any gaps in their knowledge. The Knowledge Organisers and quizzes can then be used as an additional revision resource for students to use leading towards the GCSE examinations.

Lastly, the Year 11 Team will ensure that there are a range of interventions, revision seminars, specialised tailored revision guidance and strategies delivered to our students throughout the academic year to support your child through this crucial year in their academic journey.

Class Charts (Homework, Rewards and Parent Information System)

We are delighted to introduce Class Charts, which provides cutting edge technology to support your child's learning and inform you of their progress and next steps. All homework will be set on Class Charts so students can access and submit work electronically. In addition any behaviour incidents and rewards will be recorded on Class Charts during the school day. Over the next few weeks you will receive login details to enable you and your child to download the parent and student app on your computer, tablet or mobile phone. The apps will be updated daily to keep you informed of your child's timetable, homework, behaviour and rewards. There will also be an exciting rewards store which will allow students to see how many Visa points they have and what they can purchase with these. Any parents without access to an electronic device will be provided with the same information.

Getting in touch/ concerns or queries

If you have any concerns regarding your child's academic progress or need information or guidance on supporting your child's progression, please get in touch using the academy's telephone number or email:

o.willis@ormistonvictoryacadem.co.uk

r.cole@ormistonvictoryacademy.co.uk

m.aves@ormistonvictoryacademy.co.uk

Or for a pastoral/ behavioural concern:

m.aves@ormistonvictoryacademy.co.uk

s.burke@ormistonvictoryacademy.co.uk

We look forward to working with you in the year ahead.

Yours sincerely,

The Year 11 Team