



**Ormiston Victory Academy**

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3rd March 2021

Parent/Carer of

Dear Parent/Carer of

I am delighted that you have chosen Ormiston Victory Academy for ..... I would like to formally welcome your family to our academy's community and offer you some early information in terms of transition activities and induction.

Usually, we would love to offer a visit during a 'normal' academy day to any families who wish to do so. However, this is clearly tricky to commit to at the moment given the restrictions relating to COVID-19. We will contact you if things change and we are able to offer these welcome visits - once we pass some of the government's key deadlines.

Victory is an exciting place to learn and we take pride in our sound moral compass. We are equally committed to ensuring each child has rich and varied extra-curricular opportunities as we are to ensuring all students make excellent progress in every subject area. Our students and staff welcome visitors and love to share their experiences. Many of our students choose to stay with us from Year 7 through to Year 13 when they prepare to either head off to university or go into employment or a higher level apprenticeship.

As part of our commitment to ensuring..... has a happy and worry-free start, we will be offering the opportunity for students to complete an early transition period, providing them with 3 days at Victory to prepare for September. The early transition days will run from Monday 12th July - Wednesday 14th July 2021 for all children (with the prior permission of their Primary schools) who wish to participate. Year 6 students are then able to return to their Primary schools (for those whose normal term dates extend beyond this period) for the final days of Year 6.

Usually, primary schools are able to support all pupils in completing the full 3 school days. the purpose of this extended time, especially given how challenging this year has been for the children, is to help the new Year 7s make friends, understand the rules and expectations and navigate their way around a large site. We want them to get to know some friendly faces. This time is not designed to pressure children into catching up or being judged, we want them to feel the excitement of coming to secondary school and feel comfortable in their new surroundings. In previous years, we have always allowed flexibility for schools who wanted children to return to their primaries for celebration events or visits during this week as we appreciate that this closure is important.

We want our young people to thrive as soon as possible, without being distracted by the practicalities of getting used to a larger building and lots of new faces. Dr Allen (Assistant Principal with responsibility for transition) and her team will hopefully be visiting the primary schools of students joining us in September, prior to this transition week, to enable us to begin to get to know them better and answer any questions they may have.

For children who do not start early, as mentioned above, we continue to host a traditional induction day for all New Year 7 students on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2021.

We ask for all students to attend in their primary school uniform for these events – there is no need to purchase Victory uniform early. We will be writing to you shortly with a pack of useful information including procedures for uniform and ordering. In the meantime, we would be grateful if you would please complete our data collection document and return it to us by

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2021, so we can begin the admissions administration process as soon as possible. It is vitally important that the academy holds correct and up to date information for all students, also enclosed is a privacy notice which explains in greater detail how this information is used.

You will also find enclosed, in the data collection document, information detailing the differing languages that we offer for study in Key Stage 3, we like to give students the opportunity to select their preferences. We are excited to be able to offer a range of languages most years including French, Spanish, German and Mandarin!

I would also like to take this opportunity to urge you to follow our Twitter account @VictoryAcad to keep abreast of the latest news feeds and @victoryadventur (for enrichment news once our clubs begin again after Easter). We use social networking to celebrate our students' achievements and participation in events at the academy.

Our website is an excellent source of information – within the pages for parents, you will find a section dedicated to Key Stage 3 learning which includes curriculum maps for each term so you can readily support George's studies. You can also read about the exciting enrichment opportunities we offer in 'normal' times, like water-skiing, sailing, ice-skating, parent & child classes and find out more about our sponsor, Ormiston Academies Trust. It may also be useful to you to explore the COVID-19 section so you can read about the guidance we have offered to families since March 2020.

I have also enclosed a copy of our term dates for 2021-2022 for your information - I imagine some of you are keen to book a holiday!

Please contact us if you would like to discuss this letter or obtain any further information.

I look forward to meeting you in the near future – we are proud you have chosen our outstanding academy.

Sincere regards,



Naomi Palmer  
Principal

Encs:

1. Term Dates 2021-2022
2. Privacy Notice - Students
3. Data Collection Document
4. Addressed Envelope
5. MyEd app information