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**Ormiston
RIVERS
Academy**

[OAT]
Ormiston Academies Trust
AN OAT ACADEMY



DEEPENING LEARNING,
RAISING ASPIRATION

Aspiration - Independence - Resilience - Respect

OUR VALUES

OUR VALUES STAND AT THE HEART OF OUR ACADEMY.

ASPIRATION - WE WANT EVERY STUDENT TO ASPIRE TO GREATNESS AND FEEL CONFIDENT IN THEIR ABILITY TO DO SO. ORA IS COMMITTED TO PROVIDING THE OPPORTUNITIES, SUPPORT AND GUIDANCE TO ENABLE OUR STUDENTS TO REACH FOR THE STARS.

INDEPENDENCE - AT ORA WE STRIVE TO DEVELOP INDEPENDENT LEARNERS AND THINKERS; YOUNG PEOPLE WHO HAVE THE SKILLS TO NAVIGATE THEMSELVES THROUGH LIFE AND ACHIEVE SUCCESS.

RESILIENCE - AT ORA, WE KNOW THAT THE ABILITY TO COPE IN SPITE OF SETBACKS IS ONE OF THE MOST VALUABLE LIFE SKILLS THAT WILL SERVE OUR STUDENTS WELL AT ALL STAGES OF THEIR EDUCATION AND FUTURE LIVES. RESILIENCE IS A MEASURE OF HOW MUCH YOU WANT SOMETHING AND HOW MUCH YOU ARE WILLING AND ABLE TO OVERCOME OBSTACLES TO ACHIEVE IT.

RESPECT - RESPECT STANDS AT THE HEART OF THE ORA ETHOS. RESPECT FOR YOURSELF, RESPECT FOR OTHERS, RESPECT FOR THE ENVIRONMENT. THIS VALUE PERVADES EVERYTHING THAT WE DO AND MAKES US STRONGER AS A COMMUNITY.



Dear Parents, Carers, Students and Visitors,

I am delighted to welcome you to Ormiston Rivers Academy. We are one of the highest performing schools for progress in Essex. **We are one of the best schools in the county and our students and outcomes prove this year on year.** I am proud to represent the staff and students of Ormiston Rivers, a school that really embodies the unlimited ambitions we have for the children of the Dengie Peninsula.

Ormiston Rivers is a dynamic and exciting learning environment with creative teaching and learning as the norm. We are the sole secondary school in Burnham on Crouch and the Dengie, and therefore uniquely placed to ensure that children achieve their potential.

Our students are resilient and respectful young people, independently working to seize and create opportunities for themselves and others. They are ambitious and aspirational; set to change the world for the better. We promote a creative approach, and we have excellent facilities for dance, drama and music, embracing the discipline these subjects bring to your child. Our values are rooted firmly in the community and we encourage links with local groups, businesses and events. If you have seen our students perform or participate across the county, you will know that excellence is an expectation and this is clear in everything we do – be it through: academic or charitable endeavours, performance or motor vehicle maintenance.

Our student exam results remain consistently above national averages and we continue to develop confident students who go out in the world with the security that only a strong education can provide. Our last Ofsted was in October 2016, with the school rated as Good in all aspects, the report can be found on the Ofsted section of our website.

You will find a wealth of information about the school on the website, but do not hesitate to contact us if you would like any further information. I look forward to meeting you in the near future and hope to be welcoming your child next year.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Joanne Williams'.

Joanne Williams
Principal

OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE



Ormiston
RIVERS
Academy

TOP

PERFORMING SUBJECT
IN OUR TRUST FOR
PERFORMING ARTS

TEACHER
OF THE YEAR
AT THE ESSEX
TEACHING AWARDS

TOP2

NON-SELECTIVE SCHOOL
FOR OVERALL PROGRESS
IN ESSEX

DEPARTMENT
OF THE YEAR
FOR OUR AMAZING
PERF. ARTS
AT THE ESSEX TEACHING AWARDS

TOP

PERFORMING
IN OUR TRUST FOR
MOST ABLE

TOP

NON-SELECTIVE SCHOOL
FOR PROGRESS OF OUR
DISADVANTAGED
IN ESSEX

TOP

RESULTS
IN OUR TRUST FOR
SCIENCE

TOP

NON-SELECTIVE SCHOOL
FOR PROGRESS OF OUR
MOST ABLE
IN ESSEX

CHILD DEVELOPMENT +2.46	FRENCH +0.46	HEALTH & FITNESS +2.1	DESIGN & PLANNING +0.7
MUSIC TECHNOLOGY +2.94	ART +1.29	BIOLOGY +0.71	RELIGIOUS EDUCATION +1.51
FINANCE +1.48	PERFORMING ARTS +2.28	FOOD +1.13	MEDIA +0.94
MUSIC PERFORMANCE +2.56	ENGINEERING +0.85	PHYSICS +0.34	BUSINESS +0.86

Our schools' progress score is +0.43, (National average is 0.) If a school hits zero it means on average all students achieved their nationally defined targets. Anything above that means they have scored above targets. So for instance our students in Health and Fitness on average perform over 2 grades above their targets (+2.1), in French nearly half a grade (which is phenomenal in such a complex subject!) and in Engineering nearly a grade above (+0.85). This means we are the second best non selective school in Essex. As you can see we have many subjects that do even better than that! **Many of our subjects perform outstandingly and are amongst the top performers both locally and nationally.** (Data taken from last Performance Tables published before Covid19 school impact.)

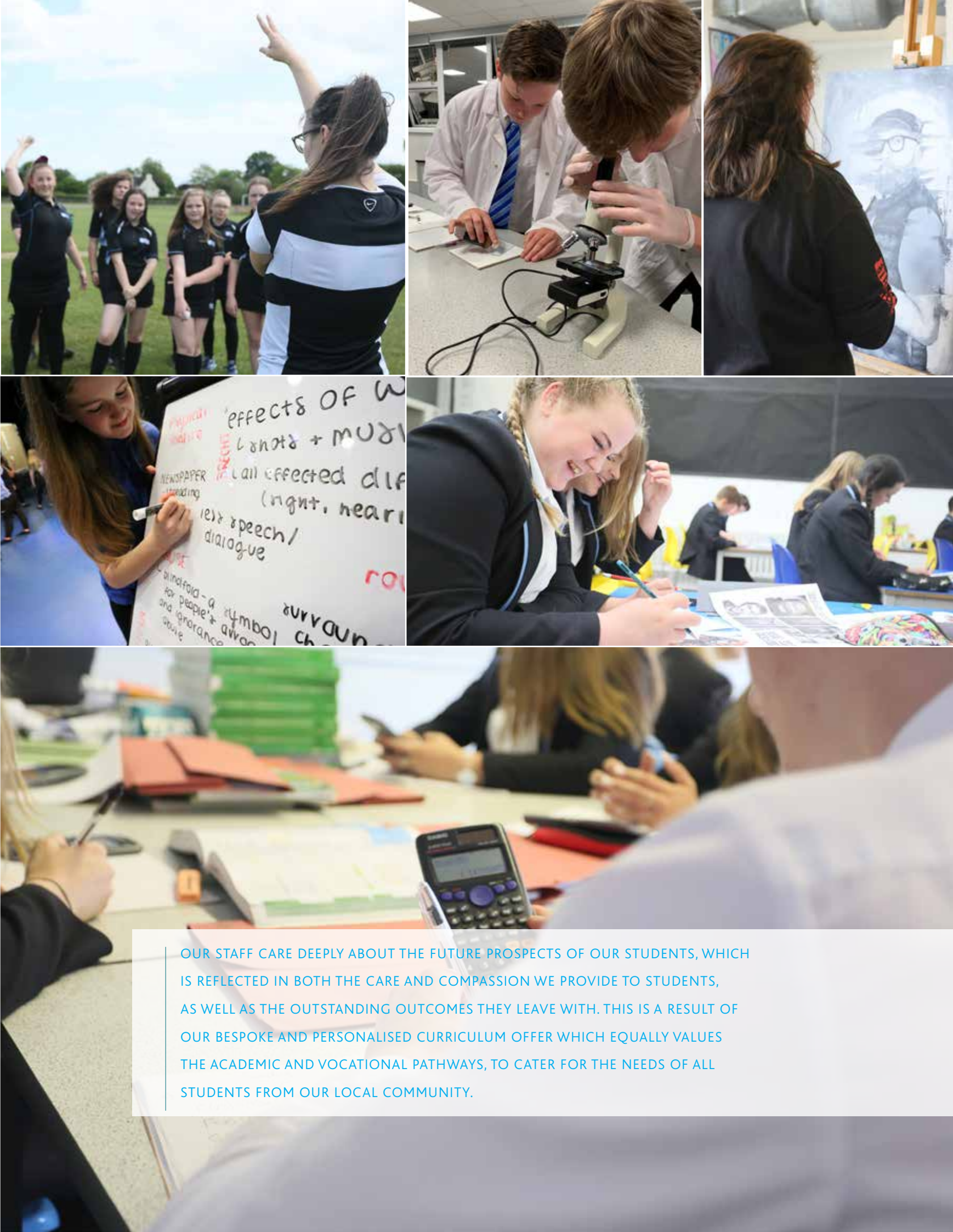
A CULTURE OF EXCELLENT TEACHING AND LEARNING

The high standard of teaching and learning at Ormiston Rivers Academy is seen every day in lessons that are both challenging and engaging, that push students of all abilities to do their best and ensure that they succeed. With support and encouragement, our students make outstanding progress across the board and leave with the qualifications they need to move on to the next stage in their lives.

Every day, students have five lessons, each lasting 60 minutes, broken up by break and lunchtime. At the beginning of the day, all students have 25 minutes in their mentor group where they cover a broad range of topical issues and prepare to start their learning. A weekly year group assembly also takes place in this time. Homework is set regularly and helps to support learning in the classroom.

Assessment and reporting are an important way of supporting students with their learning. Students are given regular written and verbal feedback on their class and homework and parents/carers receive reports clearly showing how their child is progressing. In addition to this, an annual parents' evening allows a formal consultation with their child's teachers. We encourage good communication between staff and parents and regularly use our parent app, email and social media to communicate key messages. Parents and carers are invited to contact us via email or telephone at the school as necessary.

Our core aim at Ormiston Rivers Academy is 'deepening learning, raising aspiration' and we strive for this through exciting learning opportunities, extra-curricular fun and passionate, knowledgeable staff. The future is bright for our students and we are here to help guide them towards it!



OUR STAFF CARE DEEPLY ABOUT THE FUTURE PROSPECTS OF OUR STUDENTS, WHICH IS REFLECTED IN BOTH THE CARE AND COMPASSION WE PROVIDE TO STUDENTS, AS WELL AS THE OUTSTANDING OUTCOMES THEY LEAVE WITH. THIS IS A RESULT OF OUR BESPOKE AND PERSONALISED CURRICULUM OFFER WHICH EQUALLY VALUES THE ACADEMIC AND VOCATIONAL PATHWAYS, TO CATER FOR THE NEEDS OF ALL STUDENTS FROM OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY.



STUDENTS HAVE PERFORMED IN SOME OF THE MOST PRESTIGIOUS VENUES INCLUDING WESTMINSTER CENTRAL HALL, O2 ARENA, THE NATIONAL THEATRE AND WEMBLEY ARENA.

Ormiston Rivers Academy's award winning Performing Arts team is hugely celebrated in our school, our local community and our national sponsor family. Students have won performance competitions, whilst staff have been recognised by both the Essex Teaching Awards and the Burnham on Crouch Town Mayor for their outstanding work.

The performing arts curriculum encompasses a broad range of subjects; music, drama, dance, performing arts, music technology and creative media.

Our results in both key stage 4 and key stage 5 are significantly higher than national averages and are ranked among some of the strongest in the country, with students achieving significantly above their target levels in years 11 and 13.

As an academy, we strongly believe that fostering self-confidence and self-belief, develops resilience, ambition and independence and our Performing Arts department is relentless in the pursuit of developing this in each and every learner. We pride ourselves in nurturing the hidden and overt talents of all students, through our formal and informal, extra-curricular provision, including professional standard productions for our local community to enjoy.





DEEPENING LEARNING THROUGH OUR CURRICULUM

We offer a fully comprehensive, broad and balanced, career enabling curriculum, underpinned by a strong focus on literacy and an understanding of today's global society. Our curriculum is reinforced by our belief in "Deepening Learning, Raising Aspiration".

Our Academy follows the depth of the national curriculum and is further enhanced by our commitment to the arts and career focused subjects. We ensure that our offer is tailored to students of all abilities through our curriculum provision as well as our "Pupil Premium Promise" and our "Elite Scholars Programme". We offer subject choices at both key stage 4 and key stage 5 to suit the needs of both vocational and academic learners. We are proud of the facilities in our academy, which enhance the learning of our students on a daily basis, notably our Motor Vehicles suite, our Performing Arts spaces and our well-equipped Science labs.

The importance of developing confidence in young people today cannot be understated. Our belief is that students thrive whilst learning creative arts and practical subjects such as drama, dance, music and design and technology. We value the importance of these subjects in our curriculum, the practical skills and the social benefits they give to all students, giving them the confidence to believe in their own abilities, motivating them to be proactive in reaching their life goals and giving them the skills to present and articulate their own thoughts on a given topic.

Developing our students as well rounded, healthy and compassionate young adults is also an integral part of both our formal curriculum and the informal, extra-curricular experience of students throughout their time with us. Our curriculum aims to develop aspiration, independence and resilience in our learners, whilst instilling a sense of respect as part of a moral compass. We highlight the importance of British Values in the formal taught curriculum, the formal learning with mentors and achievement directors and the informal learning that takes place in our enrichment programmes. We take pride in our well-being provision within the academy, promoting the importance of good mental

health and appropriate support for those who face mental health challenges. We promote the importance of social justice and social action through our work with the #makehappen and #iwill campaigns. Our high profile careers programme supports students in accessing the valuable information that they need in order to make decisions about their future.

At Ormiston Rivers Academy, we aim to engender a lifelong love of reading and ensure that our students value the joys of both the written and spoken word. In doing so, we will empower students to succeed in all of their qualifications whilst also equipping them with the tools (language, curiosity, empathy and creativity) required to make positive contributions to society. We believe that the ability to read fluently is an inalienable right and aim to ensure that all students have access to the full curriculum through reading interventions where appropriate.

Our staff care deeply about the future prospects of our students, which is reflected in both the care and compassion we provide to students as well as the outstanding outcomes our students leave with as a result of a bespoke and personalised curriculum offer which equally values the academic and vocational pathways, to cater for the needs of the students from our local community.

WE OFFER A FULLY COMPREHENSIVE,
BROAD AND BALANCED, CAREER ENABLING
CURRICULUM, UNDERPINNED BY A
STRONG FOCUS ON LITERACY AND AN
UNDERSTANDING OF TODAY'S GLOBAL
SOCIETY.

VOCATIONAL EXCELLENCE

At Ormiston Rivers Academy, we pride ourselves on the opportunities we give students where they can explore specialist subjects alongside the academic curriculum. The vocational curriculum begins in years 7, 8 and 9 where all students are given a taste of specialist subjects, so they can make more informed choices when they come to take their options. In these years students can explore Art, Drama, Engineering, Food, I.T and Business amongst others!

The vocational options offered in year 10 are carefully chosen to match the needs and aspirations of our students as well as those of the local community. Here the opportunity is given to study career related subjects in much greater depth for 3 hours a week per chosen subject

Our school boasts many specialist facilities which are all used to allow us to offer a wide range of subjects. These allow year 10 and 11 students to explore their subjects in depth making full use of these specialist areas to enable them to progress. Combined with the culture of excellent teaching and learning seen throughout the whole school, these subjects provide key skills and experiences which help our students develop character and resilience as well as excellent subject knowledge.

In year 12 and 13, the specialist opportunities offered again expand in depth and opportunity. Here the vocational subjects engage with local business and organisations to give our students vital workplace skills. These are invaluable in either further study of for entering an apprenticeship or the world of work. Outstanding student work can often be seen in the community through our productions and exhibitions.

The vocational offering at Ormiston Rivers Academy is driven by our aim to 'deepen learning and raise aspiration', which can be seen through the wealth of opportunities offered to students, but also allowing the exploration of aspirations and new experiences through specialist lessons from year 7. Vocational lessons have a strong focus on informing students' futures, and aim to inspire them into future study assisted by the enthusiasm of our knowledgeable teachers.



AT ORMISTON RIVERS ACADEMY WE AIM
TO PRODUCE THE NEXT GENERATION OF
SPORT AND FITNESS ENTHUSIASTS.





World Karate Champions. Thomas, Ryeka, Tori and Billy brought home 6 Gold and 3 Silver medals between them.



Holly is the national Sunshine Tour Supreme Champion at Hickstead!



Charlie won Essex Schools Handicap Golf Championship



Year 8 Boys Rugby. A and B team. A team - 2020 District leaders in the top Mid Essex Division



Tom achieves third in British Championships (and all the other competitors were adults!!)



Charlie, Jamie, Leo and Owen. Mid Essex boys Athletics team.



Katy: 2nd place in Discus at the Essex Championships representing Mid Essex



Ruby represented Chelmsford City Swimming Club and won the 50m breaststroke (new PB!)



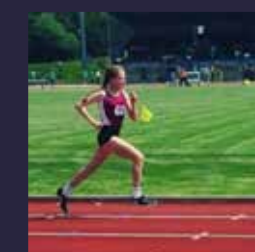
Blake: District Football Team 2019/20. Mid Essex Cross Country 2019



International Sailing Award for Georger! He is the youngest member of his sailing club ever to receive this.



Dylan: 1st place Bloody Mary National Championship Pursuit 2020. 2nd place 420 National Championships 2019



Fran: Multiple District winner 1500m. Represented Mid Essex in 1500m and cross country

OUR NEXT GENERATION OF SPORTING ENTHUSIASTS

WE WANT TO INSPIRE YOUNG PEOPLE TO ACHIEVE THEIR FULL POTENTIAL IN BOTH LESSONS AND EXTRA-CURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES, WHILST GAINING THE KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS THAT CAN PROMOTE FITNESS FOR LIFE. HIGHLY EFFECTIVE TEACHING AND ADDITIONAL, EXTRA-CURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES ARE AT THE HEART OF WHAT WE DO.

From Year 7 students receive two hours of core PE every week. The lessons range from team sports such as football, netball, rugby and rounders, to individual sports such as cross country, athletics and badminton, to name just a few.

We expect all students to arrive to PE lessons fully equipped and motivated to learn and do their very best. Striving to improve will be a key skill we aim to promote through our teaching. Students will receive multiple opportunities to participate in extra-curricular clubs throughout the week. These clubs will run before, during and after school. Our modern fitness suite is very popular with students wishing to increase their fitness levels whilst learning how to use a range of gym equipment and machines.

Many students will also have the opportunity to represent the Academy in fixtures against other schools from the Mid Essex District. Over the 2019/20 rugby season we were delighted to announce that the Year

8 Boys Rugby Team were the District Leaders in their group – an accomplishment we are very proud of and one we wish to emulate with other teams in the coming years. Other students also represented Mid Essex in cross country and football over the year.

The benefits of exercise are also key to our teaching and club offerings. Over their school years we expect students to improve their practical ability in a range of sports while also learning about rules and tactics at the same time. Encouraging new friendships as well as being able to improve students' physical and mental wellbeing is very important to us.

In summary, many opportunities await at the PE Department. Not only in every lesson but also at clubs and any trips that may run (such as our popular ski trip). We hope every student will take all they can from their experiences with us to help guide them through their time at school as well as in their sporting endeavours beyond it.

BUILDING YOUR DREAMS: CAREERS AT THE HEART OF OUR CURRICULUM

At Ormiston Rivers Academy, we aim to support the aspirations of our students. We are committed to ensuring that our Careers provision meets all the current guidelines for good practice, in order to prepare and equip our students for their future steps and careers. We measure and evaluate our programme via the Quality in Careers Standards and the 8 GATSBY Benchmarks.

We have been working towards the National Quality in Careers Standards Award, and are aiming to acquire this qualification by the end of 2021.

There is a statutory duty to give independent careers guidance for all students from Year 8 onwards and the Government recommends that all schools should be required to work towards the National Quality in Careers Standard.

We offer high quality, impartial careers guidance that helps pupils to make informed choices about which courses suit their academic needs and aspirations. The Academy is committed to Careers Education as a vital means of giving all students the skills, knowledge and understanding to manage their own lifelong learning and career development.

The school offers a range of activities to introduce students to the world of work and help them make decisions about life after school. The academy works very closely with a number of different providers to ensure every opportunity is given to our students and to make them aware of all that is available to them. Careers education will prepare all students for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of education, training and employment, along with the challenges of adult life. Careers Education both complements and integrates with our SMSC Curriculum and Mentor programme.

- + To provide up to date and impartial guidance to all students
- + To encourage students to be ambitious, broaden their horizons and explore their own career aspirations throughout their life at the Academy
- + To ensure students' readiness to take their next step in their learning or career
- + To help students to understand the changing world of work
- + To facilitate meaningful encounters with employers for all students
- + To support positive transitions post-16 to ensure every student has a planned next step into further education, apprenticeships or a career.
- + To enable students to develop the research skills to find out about opportunities
- + To help students to develop key employability skills, attitudes and qualities to make a successful transition into the world of work
- + To encourage participation in continued learning, including further and higher education and apprenticeships
- + To contribute to strategies for raising achievement, particularly by increasing motivation and confidence.
- + To support inclusion, challenge stereotyping and promote equality of opportunity

AT ORMISTON RIVERS ACADEMY, WE ARE PASSIONATE ABOUT ENSURING WE PROVIDE OUR STUDENTS WITH AS MUCH CAREERS GUIDANCE AS POSSIBLE TO ENABLE THEM TO MAKE EXCELLENT DECISIONS FOR BRIGHT FUTURES.



'THERE IS A TRUE SENSE OF PRIDE AND COMMUNITY
AMONG THE STAFF AND PUPILS AND TANGIBLE
EVIDENCE OF PROGRESS AND SUCCESS.
CONGRATULATIONS TO YOU ALL ON YOUR FANTASTIC
ACHIEVEMENTS. WE ARE SO LUCKY TO HAVE A
FANTASTIC SCHOOL TO SEND OUR CHILDREN TO'



LITERACY & READING ARE AT THE HEART OF OUR ACADEMY

AT ORMISTON RIVERS ACADEMY, WE AIM TO ENGENDER A LIFELONG LOVE OF READING AND ENSURE THAT OUR STUDENTS VALUE THE JOYS OF BOTH THE WRITTEN AND SPOKEN WORD. IN DOING SO, WE WILL EQUIP THEM WITH THE TOOLS (LANGUAGE, CURIOSITY, EMPATHY AND CREATIVITY) REQUIRED TO HELP THEM SUCCEED ACROSS OUR CURRICULUM AND MAKE POSITIVE CONTRIBUTIONS TO SOCIETY.

Literacy is essential to all learning throughout the school, in all years and across all subject areas. At Ormiston Rivers Academy, we know that good literacy skills help students to communicate effectively and allow students to achieve their potential across the curriculum.

We take every opportunity to promote reading for pleasure. This includes: a weekly reading mentor session; Book Club; a Weekly Reading programme; daily DEAR time which requires students in Years 7 and 8 to 'Drop Everything And Read' for 20 minutes a day. Students in Years 7 and 8 also have lessons in the Learning Resource Centre every two weeks. This time is dedicated to reading, choosing new books, completing Accelerated Reader Quizzes (see below) and discussing books. Accelerated Reader is a reading programme designed to boost engagement and achievement in both reading and comprehension. Our students' experience of the Accelerated Reader Programme is further enhanced by the addition of myON - an online collection of 1000s of books that can be searched using criteria linked to Accelerated Reader and followed up with AR quizzes straight from within the App. We also thoroughly enjoy celebrating reading with days such as World Book Day and National Poetry Day as a school, as well as welcoming authors to the school to work with our students.

Because literacy is integral to our students' success, we aim to ensure all learners at our school emerge as confident and articulate communicators. Every year, ORA participate in 'No Pens Day', during which students put down their pens and pick up their speaking and listening skills. A weekly debate club is also held for students in all year groups, developing their ability to debate effectively. We also participate in public speaking competitions: the Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge, and OAT's 'Make Yourself Heard.'

The competitions don't stop at oracy, either. To help to broaden our students' vocabulary, a 'Word of the Week' is shared with all students. Evidence of correct use of this word will earn merit points!

It is our aim to inspire a love of literature and appreciation for the power and beauty of the English Language.





SUPPORTING YOU TO SUCCEED



"I WANTED TO CONGRATULATE YOU ON A FANTASTIC AWARDS CEREMONY. THERE WAS A TRUE SENSE OF PRIDE AND COMMUNITY AMONG THE STAFF AND PUPILS AND TANGIBLE EVIDENCE OF PROGRESS AND SUCCESS. CONGRATULATIONS TO YOU ALL ON YOUR FANTASTIC ACHIEVEMENTS. WE ARE SO LUCKY TO HAVE A FANTASTIC SCHOOL TO SEND OUR CHILDREN TO"

At Ormiston Rivers Academy we have high expectations of all our students and promote an ethos of mutual respect. Teaching and Learning is paramount to all we do and therefore a positive learning environment is essential. Our students understand the importance of a safeguarding culture and how their behaviour impacts on this.

Students at Ormiston Rivers Academy are rewarded for working hard and behaving well, but all our staff know that if they can help students instil an inner drive and ambition, success will be its own reward.

Ormiston Rivers students wear their uniform with pride and work with a true sense of belonging. We are a community school who take pride in our achievements. Our extra curricular programme offers students the opportunity to further their skills and gain new experiences.

At Ormiston Rivers Academy safeguarding and student wellbeing is at the centre of all we do. We understand the pressures that young people face in their daily lives and how these can impact on mental health. Students can talk to a range of mental health first aid trained staff, who are ready and willing to listen. Our Student Support Team work tirelessly to support the needs of all our students, drawing on the services of a range of external agencies.

We have recently been awarded the Wellbeing Award developed by The National Children's Bureau and Optimus Education.

The students at Ormiston Rivers are keen to support one another and know where to go to access help. We have a dedicated team of 'Wellbeing Warriors' made up from our sixth form students who work with the pastoral team to offer support and guidance. We have a dedicated space, The Wellbeing Room, where students can go for support whenever they may need it.





REWARDS & RECOGNITION

IT'S INCREDIBLY IMPORTANT TO US THAT WE RECOGNISE STUDENTS' EFFORTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS. IN OUR HONOURS ASSEMBLIES EACH TERM, WE REWARD ATTENDANCE, LEARNING BEHAVIOURS AND SPORTING EXCELLENCE. IN OUR CLASSROOMS WE AWARD SCHOLAR BADGES, Q-JUMP PASSES AND MERIT POINTS. IN MENTOR GROUPS, STUDENTS ARE REWARDED WITH PREFECT STATUS, AS YEAR GROUP LEADERS AND WITH DIFFERENT TREATS & REWARDS DEPENDING ON THEIR ACHIEVEMENT DIRECTOR'S FOCUS.





BUILDING LIFE SKILLS

At Ormiston Rivers Academy we are committed to creating rounded individuals who are socially conscious and have a strong understanding of the world around them and their place in it. We have a programme of Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) and Citizenship, which is designed to give young people the knowledge, understanding, attitudes and practical skills to live safe, healthy, productive lives and meet their full potential. It also aims to open up their minds to possibilities and develop their understanding of how to become a responsible, thoughtful citizen.

WE ARE COMMITTED TO CREATING
ROUNDED INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE
SOCIALY CONSCIOUS AND HAVE A
STRONG UNDERSTANDING OF THE
WORLD AROUND THEM AND THEIR
PLACE IN IT.

Our PSHE and Citizenship curriculum is delivered whole school through our programme of study in mentor sessions, assembly time, curriculum days, and through our KS3 personal development curriculum. It aims to help students understand how they are developing personally and socially, tackling many of the moral, social and cultural issues that are part of growing up and moving into adulthood. The programme requires an emphasis on active learning, an enquiry approach and a discussion of issues, problems and events which are set in a topical context. In line with the school values, the curriculum aims to develop skills and attributes such as resilience, respect, self-esteem, risk management, independence and critical thinking.

SEND PROVISION AT ORMISTON RIVERS ACADEMY IS BASED ON A WHOLLY
INCLUSIVE MODEL WHERE ALL STUDENTS HAVE ACCESS TO THE ENTIRETY OF
THE CURRICULUM. THE CORE AIM AT ORMISTON RIVERS ACADEMY IS 'DEEPENING
LEARNING, RAISING ASPIRATION' AND WE DO SO WITH A QUALITY FIRST TEACHING
ETHOS AT THE BASE OF OUR APPROACH TO SEND PROVISION, WHERE EVERY
TEACHER IS VIEWED AS A SEND TEACHER.

WHOLLY INCLUSIVE

The goal of the SEND team is to support students in becoming positive, accomplished individuals who develop effective life skills and achieve the very best they are capable of; both academically and socially.

All students with SEND needs are taught in mainstream lessons during the school day, with some having additional, specifically focussed learning during extra-curricular periods. These supplementary sessions are run for an hour after school in very small groups with LSA's specialising in literacy and numeracy developmental work. There are also short intervention and support sessions run before morning mentor time every day. In addition, some students participate in a reading intervention programme if their reading age is significantly below that expected; whilst some others receive highly focused intervention for literacy/numeracy from external tutors. Students with anxiety or issues with socialisation have the opportunity to make use of a 'safe space' area manned by LSA's during non-lesson time called Rivers' club, this is available every break and lunch time.

The SEND department at Ormiston Rivers Academy has a team of very experienced dedicated Learning Support Assistants (LSA's) who keep actively informed about their practice. They integrate well with teachers and are proactive in developing the learning of SEND students together. The culture of sharing good practice is deeply embedded. Good communication between the SEND team and parents/carers is an integral part of the SEND provision and we are all easily reachable via email (on the school website).

ENRICHING YOUNG LIVES

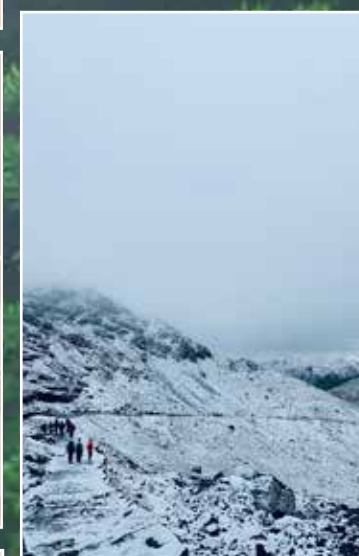
At Ormiston Rivers Academy we strongly believe that students benefit from being exposed to new situations, opportunities and environments. Therefore we place a strong emphasis on opportunities for learning beyond the classroom. Students are actively encouraged to participate in a range of activities and clubs that enhance their learning, core skills and understanding of the wider world, as well as supporting their development into young adults. There is a wide range of extra-curricular clubs and societies offered to students to allow them to explore and enhance their interests, from sports clubs and teams to Duke of Edinburgh and STEM clubs, from Performing Arts clubs to well being activities, and social action societies. At Ormiston Rivers Academy we try to ensure that there is an enrichment opportunity to appeal to all students as we strongly believe in the value it adds to students' well being and progression.

A vast number of trips and visits are also offered each year. These are designed so that our students can engage

with and widen their experience of the wider world. We aim to expand their horizons and allow them to meet and engage with people from every type of background and life experience. Trips have included students climbing Mount Snowdon, Ski-ing in the Alps, volunteering in Borneo and Amsterdam, students visiting the Courts of Justice and a criminology conference. Most of our faculties provide external visits to key destinations and experiences from KS3 to KS5, locally, nationally and internationally. Numerous enrichment opportunities are also held in school with visiting companies, experts and charities. These include Careers seminars, drama performances and provision on PSHE topics such as County Lines.

Throughout our curriculum our staff also endeavour to deliver above and beyond the remits of the national curriculum to ensure students see, hear and experience the best examples of each subject and areas of importance within the subject area and context.

STUDENTS ARE ACTIVELY ENCOURAGED TO PARTICIPATE IN A RANGE OF ACTIVITIES AND CLUBS THAT ENHANCE THEIR LEARNING, CORE SKILLS AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WIDER WORLD, AS WELL AS SUPPORTING THEIR DEVELOPMENT INTO YOUNG ADULTS.



THE RIVERS PUPIL PREMIUM PROMISE

We promise to provide the following for all our Pupil Premium students to maximise your chances of success:

- + High quality teaching and regular homework, alongside challenging and ambitious targets for what you can achieve
- + A Home Study Pack with all the equipment you need to be successful at school, including Revision Guides a Scientific calculator and stationery. To get one of these just email Mrs Mahoney on amahoney@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk
- + Access to ICT equipment and colour printers each day after school in the Library to help you with coursework and homework.
- + Daily Homework Club: a space for you to work after school each night of the week in the Learning Resource centre and library.
- + Subsidised trips so you can attend local, national and international trips and visits. Contact Mrs Mahoney (email above)
- + Free transport every night via our late bus so that you can attend any extra-curricular activity
- + Free Breakfast or Snack at break so you can ensure your stomach isn't rumbling in lessons and distracting you
- + A dedicated Pupil Premium phone-line for parental support or help with transport emergencies, 8am-4pm Monday-Friday. 01621 787823.
- + Priority access to Careers guidance bookable direct through Louise Brazier on lbrazier@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk
- + Access to 1-1 Free Music lessons for those that show musical interest via Ms Carroll on scarroll@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk
- + Access to higher education trips to Careers Fairs and Universities to raise your aspirations via Mrs Compton on fcompton@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk
- + Booster sessions and 1:1 tuition where possible if you are falling behind in a subject via Mr Priddle jpriddle@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk
- + Access to help with buying school uniform via Mrs Mahoney on amahoney@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk
- + Access to small group work in Maths and English to push you further.
- + A wide range of Period 6 lessons to support you in the run up to your exams (and after school clubs and sports teams for all.)
- + Drop in access at break and lunches to pastoral support from our team of student support officers and Wellbeing Warriors.
- + A dedicated Senior Leader to support all Pupil Premium Families. Contact Mr Priddle on jpriddle@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk

Want help in finding out if you are eligible?
Contact Mrs Mahoney on amahoney@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk or call 01621 787839
Already eligible? Contact the staff above to access our support package



CLOSING THE ADVANTAGE GAP: OUR PUPIL PREMIUM PROMISE

Our intention for our pupil premium spend is simple. Our students, regardless of socio-economic background, should all progress equally. The life chances of those with disadvantaged financial backgrounds should be equal to those that do not have that challenge. Our unequivocal drive towards equality of experience, enrichment opportunities and exam outcomes for all is at the heart of our academy. We believe that what happens in our classrooms in every period of every academy day is what makes the difference. As such we use our PP funding to provide a wide programme of support so that learning opportunities can be accessed without question or excuse. After all, a fabulous set of exam results held in the hand of a smiling, happy, confident student is what will open doors for the rest of their lives.

You can find our Pupil Premium strategy on our website along with a detailed breakdown of our spend and the impact of it across several years.

WE ARE THE TOP NON SELECTIVE SCHOOL IN ESSEX
FOR THE PROGRESS OF OUR DISADVANTAGED. WE
WORK TIRELESSLY TO ENSURE EVERY STUDENT,
REGARDLESS OF THEIR BACKGROUND OR HEAD
START IN LIFE, ACHIEVES THEIR POTENTIAL.



ELITE SCHOLARS: INCLUSIVE ASPIRATION FOR ALL

Our Elite Scholar Programme is open to all students who want to achieve extraordinary things and are willing to work for it. It is one of the three strands of our Most Able programme but is open to all abilities: any student that is willing to try their very best and has high aspirations. We expect a simple commitment which is exemplified in one word: 'effort'. It doesn't matter if you think you are 'clever' or not, if you have achieved well in tests previously, or not. Our Scholar Programme is a commitment you make to working hard, it's for those that delight in learning and achieving. Applications open every year in September and details can be found on our website.

WE ARE THE TOP NON SELECTIVE SCHOOL IN ESSEX
FOR THE PROGRESS OF OUR MOST ABLE. WE WORK
HARD TO STRETCH AND CHALLENGE ALL THOSE THAT
WANT THAT EXTRA SUPPORT AND ARE UP FOR THE
CHALLENGE, REGARDLESS OF PRIOR ATTAINMENT!





RIVERS' SIXTH FORM

RIVERS' SIXTH FORM IS A VIBRANT AND ENRICHING COMMUNITY THAT HELPS OUR STUDENTS TO OPEN DOORS AND PURSUE FUTURE CHOICES. AS A SMALLER COMMUNITY SIXTH FORM, WE GET TO KNOW EACH AND EVERY STUDENT'S NEEDS AND SPECIALIST INTERESTS.

Rivers' Sixth Form is a vibrant and enriching community that helps our students to open doors and pursue future choices. As a smaller community Sixth Form, we get to know each and every student's needs and specialist interests.

At Rivers, we strive to offer a wide range of enriching education to our students. Our curriculum offer ensures that all students have the chance to build a programme of study that allows them to not only achieve, but to establish firm and productive progression routes to take with them into their adult lives. We try wherever possible to build a bespoke offer that allies with our students' ambitions.

In line with Key Stage 3 and 4, we hold a high standard of teaching and learning at Rivers, allowing challenging and engaging lessons across all subjects. All students study three subjects in the Sixth Form. Each course has five hours of teaching per week and may be taught by one or more specialist subject teachers. Students may also have an enrichment subject they study such as Core Maths, Further Maths, or an Extended Project Qualification (EPQ). To allow for this, students will all have a bespoke timetable which will include Supervised Study and free periods for group work and personal development. Homework is set regularly and helps to support learning in the classroom and allow students to progress to become independent learners, researching and working with new content to deepen their learning.

Assessment and reporting are an important way of supporting students with their learning. Students are given regular written and verbal feedback on their class and homework and parents/carers receive reports clearly showing student progress. In addition to this, an annual parents evening allows a formal consultation with subject teachers. We encourage good communication

between staff and parents, and regularly use our parent app, email and social media accounts to communicate key messages. Parents and carers are invited to contact us via email or telephone at the school as necessary.

At the heart of the Sixth Form lies a strong system of pastoral care. The Sixth Form pastoral team are on hand to support students with their studies, career and higher educational guidance and applications. Students are expected to develop and demonstrate qualities of self-motivation, maturity, resilience and commitment to their studies. Similar to the lower school, our Sixth Form students have a mentor system put in place to guide them through their Sixth Form journey. These sessions allow students to have opportunities to explore future destinations such as Universities and Apprenticeships as well as building life skills. We endeavour to listen to student feedback when building these sessions which focus around CV writing, exploring career opportunities, finances and saving, one to one mentoring, as well as SMSC and Well-being. One to one mentoring ensures that each student has a chance to air their thoughts and concerns and make a personal connection with their mentor.

At Rivers' Sixth Form, we care deeply about the future prospects of our students across all the Key Stages. This is reflected in both the care and compassion we provide to students as well as the outstanding outcomes our students leave with as a result of a bespoke and personalised curriculum offer. This equally values the academic and vocational pathways, catering for the needs of all students from our local community.



WE DONT CHASE DREAMS; WE BUILD THEM.

FROM THE MOMENT YOU RECEIVE AN OFFER TO JOIN OUR ACADEMY, TO THE MOMENT YOU RECEIVE YOUR A LEVEL RESULTS, WE ARE HERE. WE WILL SUPPORT YOU TO ENSURE THAT, BRICK BY BRICK, YOU BUILD YOUR DREAMS.

THE GREATEST DANGER FOR MOST OF US IS NOT THAT OUR AIM IS TOO HIGH AND WE MISS IT, BUT THAT IT IS TOO LOW AND WE REACH IT. (MICHALANGELO)



FACILITIES TO INSPIRE...

Through our conversion to Academy we secured a £10.75m grant which enabled us to develop our facilities to inspire our students and encourage them in raising aspirations. A major refurbishment and new build project, which concluded in 2015, gave the Academy the opportunity to refresh and renew existing facilities whilst also building a new Performing Arts centre.

We have outstanding specialist rooms including Science Laboratories, Drama & Dance studios, Fitness Suite, Cookery rooms, IT suites, Technical Engineering workshops and a fully operational Motor Vehicles facility, providing exemplary opportunities to meet our diverse curriculum offer for KS3 as well as GCSE and Sixth form studies. Our Learning Resource Centre is an amazing space for independent learning where you will be able to carry out research using computers, laptops and more traditional resources, books! It is open before and after school, allowing students to get ahead with their homework before they even get home.

Our sports facilities provide opportunities for participation in a wide range of activities, both timetabled and through enrichment clubs. Our Sports hall offers; volleyball, basketball, five-a-side football, badminton, and cricket nets whilst our outdoor facilities include rugby, football & cricket pitches, netball and tennis courts, and an all-weather pitch. We also have a fully equipped fitness suite and gymnasium.

The well-maintained grounds enable easy transition for spring and summer sports including athletics, cricket, and rounders. We are a registered centre for the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme and encourage students to participate in this amazing opportunity from Year 9. Our extensive facilities enable us to offer a "sport for all" and for those who are keen to participate in something different, our Performing Arts centre could be the place for you.

FACILITIES AT THE ACADEMY ARE AMAZING AND SUPPORT THE WIDE RANGE OF STUDIES OFFERED TO STUDENTS

The Academy has two fully equipped drama studios, a music room and four practice rooms. Our main hall is a fantastic venue for our annual production, with tiered seating and a fully equipped lighting and sound control booth.

Our catering team provide an extensive menu which is served in the main canteen but for those who would rather spend their social time outside or participating in extra curricular activities, a wide range of hot and cold options are also available from the Rivers Café in the main foyer and the tuck shop at the rear of the school.

PARENT FEEDBACK

The school website is very informative, and supportive in many ways.

The teachers are extremely helpful and we are so very grateful for the help we are given.

The school has been such an amazing support to us as a family.

Very impressed with the communication from the school.

I think you've done an incredible job, I am very proud that we are part of the ORA family!

I know the teachers and support staff go over and above to help and support the students as much as they can. It is appreciated. I cannot fault the help and support received.

It is so good to see our young people learning about equality and having the opportunity to celebrate diversity.

How pleased I am with my son's progress since he started in September. He has grown in confidence so much so I wanted to say a huge thank you to all his teachers and staff for giving him the encouragement and support he needed

To see young people with so much confidence, energy and talent was simply astonishing.

I walked around your school with my daughter, helped by two fantastic student ambassadors who were incredibly polite and patient. All the teachers I spoke to were brilliant. Many thanks for helping my daughter make a fully informed decision

VISIT OUR SCHOOL

We run an Open Evening every September for prospective students, the dates will always be advertised on our website and social media channels.

We always welcome parents to tour our fabulous school so you can see it come alive. If you would like to arrange a visit please email us to book a visit.

Bookings can be made via Mrs Surman on csurman@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk or via our general enquiries line on 01621 782377.

WE WANT TO GIVE OUR STUDENTS THE VERY BEST OPPORTUNITIES AND EXPERIENCES, AND TO FOSTER IN THEM A LIFETIME LOVE OF LEARNING. WE SEEK TO PROVIDE THE CONDITIONS THAT WILL INSPIRE THE CONFIDENCE AND ENJOYMENT THAT ARE SUCH AN IMPORTANT PART OF STUDENTS' EDUCATIONAL JOURNEYS.