## WODENSBOROUGH ORMISTON ACADEMY BELIEVE, ACHIEVE, SUCCEED



I know first-hand how important education is to securing a successful future. I believe that every child has the potential to achieve. I expect nothing but the best for each and every one of our students. We are an improving school and I am proud to share with you some of our students' experiences as well as the opportunities we can provide for your child at Wodensborough.

Leigh Moore, Principal

#### WOA Wodensborough Ormiston Academy







Welcome to Wodensborough. We became an 11–16 academy, as part of the highly successful family of Ormiston schools, in November 2013. We are located in Wednesbury, near West Bromwich, and have approximately 900 students on roll.

We are proud of our academy and having undergone a £15 million investment through BSF, we offer state of the art learning facilities in spacious new and re-modelled buildings. Our students have access to 20 acres of green space, playing fields, a basket-ball court and MUGA. We have also developed an allotment and a forest school as part of our commitment to providing outdoor learning opportunities.

Our school slogan - believe - achieve - succeed - underpins our commitment to ensuring that every child can achieve their full potential. We have a team of dedicated, specialist curriculum and student welfare staff who work together to ensure that the needs of each individual child can be met.

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Good discipline, attendance, punctuality and hard work really do matter at Wodensborough and we expect our students to play an active part in their own future. We believe in developing the whole child as an individual and we work in collaboration with a number of external partners to enable us to do so including local universities and employers, The West Bromwich Albion Foundation and The Brilliant Club to cultivate our students' skills and talents; to nurture their social and moral development and to facilitate their academic progress and achievement. Our core values underpin our daily work:

- Being ready to learn
- Working together with mutual respect
- A safe and healthy lifestyle
- Caring for each other and our environment
- Striving for a successful future





## **OUR SPONSOR**

Ormiston Academies Trust is a not for profit sponsor of primary and secondary academies. The Trust's vision is for all young people to have the highest academic, social and practical skills to allow them to lead a fulfilling life. Ormiston is determined to become the Trust that makes the most difference.





## WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP

Student voice and parent partnership are key priorities at Wodensborough. We passionately believe in working together to raise aspirations and to improve standards. We have a highly effective Student Leadership Team and a growing Parent/Carer Forum – both groups play an important part in shaping policy and practice at our academy.

"WOA has encouraged me to believe in myself and to help other students to make a real difference. The staff at WOA have always given me opportunities to try new things and explore new ideas. I'm not quite sure what I want to do in the future but I am sure I want to lead and manage people so perhaps I could be the next Prime Minister!"

Lovepreet, Year 11

#### Lovepreet, Year 11

Lovepreet is a Year 11 student and enjoys his time spent at WOA. Since joining, he has become Head Student Librarian and loves to help and support those less able with their reading. Last year, Lovepreet was elected by his peers to be part of the Junior Leadership Team, which allows him to welcome visitors and interview new teachers. Lovepreet is a real credit to WOA.

#### Chantelle, Year 10

Chantelle is in Year 10 and aspires to have a career in criminal psychology and continue to play professional rugby. Chantelle has also been a member of the Young Fighters Association for the past three years.

> "I have a strong passion for sport, especially rugby and since playing it has increased my confidence in all areas of my life, such as teamwork and communication. WOA have provided me with some great opportunities in rugby and have given me an exceptional amount of support. I have been fortunate enough to represent the school at a national level and am now a member of Handsworth's first ever female 16s rugby team. WOA have really helped me realise my ambitions and are enabling me to fulfil my potential."

Chantelle, Year 10









We believe that a *can do* attitude is important and we expect our students to come to school ready to learn: in the correct uniform, with suitable equipment and the willingness to get involved and to make a positive contribution to all lessons.

Our curriculum is designed to ensure equality of opportunity for all and we offer both academic and vocational learning pathways. We believe in equipping our students with the skills and the confidence they need to become effective learners and offer a range of study packages, interventions and wider curriculum opportunities to enable them to reach their potential.



"When I started WOA, I was very quiet and shy, but during my time here, I have become more and more confident. This is partly due to the staff encouraging me to do well and the opportunities like student leadership groups have given me. I will be working as hard as I can to achieve the best possible grades next year and hope to find a career that I enjoy and am passionate about."

Katie, Year 11









## WORKING TOGETHER WITH MUTUAL RESPECT

We believe in community and team work. To support the personal development and welfare of students, we operate a Year Group system and key staff follow our students as they progress through the school. Our highly trained Student Welfare Team includes: heads of year, pastoral managers, dedicated safeguarding staff, therapeutic interventions coaches and a school-based counsellor. This is in addition to our team of specialist learning and curriculum support assistants who work with individual students and small groups to ensure that progress in learning can be made.

Building on our community ethos and to further develop a sense of achievement and team work, we have introduced house teams which our students voted to name after local castles: Dudley, Kenilworth, Ludlow and Warwick.

"Wodensborough is a community which is both supportive and nurturing, as well as a place that motivates and challenges each individual to be the best they can be, whether they are a pupil or a member of staff."

Jenny Hickman, Teacher of History

# Wodensborodg... made learning more fun. Jack, Year 10

Wodensborough has helped me enjoy school again and

#### Jack, Year 10

Jack only joined WOA in Year 9 and settled in really well making new friends straight away. He was also lucky that some of his friends from his old primary school were already at WOA which helped him immensely. Jack hopes to work in IT when he leaves and has shown some real talent when working across different technologies at WOA from the facilities on offer.

At WOA the teachers and the students all work together as a team, they care about us and want the best for us. This makes me feel very safe and protected all the time.

Geri-Leigh, Year 8

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#### Geri-Leigh, Year 8

Geri-Leigh is in Year 8 and really enjoys IT, drama and PE. She attends after-school clubs such as netball and loves being at WOA as she gets to spend time with her friends which mean a lot to her.









The combination of personal and academic achievement is central to our educational philosophy and reflected in our work in promoting healthy living and through our 'Wodensborough Pledge'; which is a series of enrichment opportunities all students have which enable us to broaden their horizons and help to prepare them to play their part in society when they leave school.

Raising aspirations is a key focus of our work and we ensure our students have access to high quality information and guidance for future education, training and employment opportunities.



We are proud of the relationships we have built with external agencies and community groups who support us in educating our young people about living a safe and healthy lifestyle and about making the right choices for themselves and their future.

"I am delighted to be part of the Mathematics Department at Wodensborough. Being new to the school, my experience has been very positive. Both the staff and students have been extremely welcoming and I instantly felt at home, from the moment I first walked into the school."

Jacob Whittle, Teacher of Mathematics

I enjoy being a pupil at WOA. My dreams are getting closer because of the hard work and time I have put into my studies at home and at school, as well as the teachers who believe in me and who have supported me along the way.

Christopher, Year 9

#### Christopher, Year 9

Christopher is in Year 9 and is always keen to help out around the school wherever and whenever he can, to ensure it's a great place to be. Christopher has many talents and plays an array of musical instruments including the keyboard and saxophone. He hopes one day that all of his practising will hopefully make him famous.







## CARING FOR EACH OTHER AND OUR ENVIRONMENT

The unique qualities of each individual are celebrated at Wodensborough and inclusion is at the heart of our academy. We have two specialist provisions on site – the ARC (Autism Resource Centre) and Wodensborough Deaf Academy for students with hearing impairments – and our students come from a variety of different backgrounds and cultures. We foster a caring and supportive ethos at Wodensborough where relationships are harmonious and students have the opportunity to thrive.



We believe that every member of our academy has an important part to play in providing the best outcomes for our young people. We aim high and work together to promote a learning culture where students are not afraid to fail and who take pride in their achievements.

"I witness the bravery and pure determination of our students daily. Many students show up and do their absolute best in spite of difficulties. I have immense respect for each and every one of them and I consider it an honour and privilege to support them and witness these brave young people discover their true potential."

Aishe Irfan, Therapeutic Coach









## **STRIVING FOR A SUCCESSFUL FUTURE**

Believe, achieve, succeed – underpins our conviction that education is the key to success and that every child should have the opportunity to reach their full potential, regardless of starting point. At Wodensborough, the achievement and progress of every child matters.

At both Key Stages 3 and 4, we provide a broad and balanced curriculum which is underpinned by spiritual, moral, social and citizenship education. Making sure our students believe they can achieve and are empowered make informed choices about their future is important to us. Our programme of information, advice and guidance which is designed to raise aspirations and to support decisions on further education, training or employment forms an important part of our provision at Wodensborough.

Personalisation is at the heart of our curriculum and we aim to instil a desire for life-long learning amongst our students. We offer a range of learning pathways allowing students to reach their potential at all levels. During Years 8 and 9, our students are helped to make certain choices concerning future studies and can begin to access their Key Stage 4 curriculum via guided pathways which ensures a curriculum specifically designed for their own ability and needs.

"When I started at WOA I was very excited to make new friends. I have worked very hard in class and think I am doing well, from the positive comments I receive from my teachers. This encourages me to do better and work even harder so I can leave WOA with some good results when I reach Year 11."

Emma, Year 9

Emma, Year 9

Emma is in Year 9 and a very enthusiastic student. She enjoys to sing whenever and wherever she can and has recently performed on her own in front of her year group.

#### Helen Rock-Sawyer, Teacher of Performing Arts

"WOA is a great place to work. Every day is different and full of exciting challenges for the staff and the pupils. We have a thriving performing arts department where students excel in dance, acting and/or musical theatre. Performing arts empower students with the skills and confidence needed to communicate more effectively and ensure they have foundations to achieve their dreams and future ambitions."

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