















# Welcome

I am pleased to welcome you to our incredible academy, where we strongly focus on our vision of aspiration without limits and success beyond measure. OSSMA are passionate about guiding and supporting our students on their educational journey. We strive to create a safe and inclusive space where they can explore, question, and grow into individuals who are not only academically accomplished but also possess the essential life skills needed to thrive in an ever-changing world.

As a school community, we set high expectations for ourselves and our students. We firmly believe that with determination, hard work, and resilience, there is no limit to what our students can achieve. Together, we will inspire excellence and celebrate each milestone, no matter how big or small.

Here at OSSMA, we provide a unique curriculum that goes beyond the academic challenge of the classroom. Based on our values of confidence, resilience, enthusiasm, empathy, challenge and kindness (CREECK), every moment in the academy is a learning opportunity.

I am truly excited about the journey that lies ahead and the potential for greatness that resides with every student at OSSMA.

**Kelly Hassall, Interim Principal** 

## State of the art facilities

Our £18.5 million pound building (featured on the front cover) has created a great learning environment for our students and provides outstanding facilities for the community.

#### These include:

- A theatre with an integrated sound and lighting system as well as HD projection facilities.
- State-of-the-art classrooms for each subject area.
- A large atrium and learning resource centre.
- ICT throughout the academy, in specialist areas and via portable devices.

Our 3G synthetic football pitch is regarded as one of the best facilities in the city and our community /sports amenities include:

- A four badminton court sports hall equipped to accommodate a range of sports.
- Drama studio
- Tennis courts
- · Basketball court
- · Indoor/outdoor fitness equipment
- · Mirrored dance studio
- Indoor cricket nets
- Netball courts



# Mathematics

Mathematics is both an incredibly interesting and important subject. A good mathematical understanding is essential for an increasing number of careers as well as a fundamental part of everyday life. Securing understanding is achieved through our provision of an exciting and innovative curriculum, where concepts are linked across subjects and taught in novel ways. Competitions, trips and clubs form part of our extended offer beyond the normal school day and help foster the true pleasure that mathematics brings.

In mathematics students follow a well-sequenced curriculum centred around four strands: algebra, number, geometry and statistics. Conceptual links are emphasised across strands and knowledge is carefully built and reviewed. Frequent opportunities for creativity are presented, and can stimulate moments of wonder when a problem is solved for the first time, or when hidden connections suddenly manifest. This enables students to build a secure framework of mathematical reasoning, which they can use and apply with confidence.

The mathematics department at Ormiston
Sir Stanley Matthews Academy are passionate about supporting students to become confident in their mathematical ability whilst instilling a joy for learning. Nurtured, in a supportive environment, students are given the tools they need to become successful mathematicians. By focusing on context, competition and challenge, students are encouraged to achieve beyond their expectations, setting them up for success in the future.

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# Science

The science course on offer at OSSMA aims to develop confident scientists of the future, with comprehensive and diverse subject knowledge. We aim to train students in how to use a wide range of scientific equipment to set them up for future success in their chosen career.

The OSSMA science package which we offer starts at KS3 which is broadly based on the fundamentals needed to access the GCSE curriculum. For those with a thirst for understanding science we offer a Science club to Year 7 and a STEM club to Year 8.

#### The curriculum

In KS3 we teach all three science disciplines in two blocks with an assessment at the end of each block

#### In Year 7 we cover:

- What does a scientist look like'
- How can we use science?
- What is a human?
- What is our universe?

#### In Year 8 we cover:

- How science works
- Who are we?
- How can humans stay healthy?
- What is a chemical reaction's

#### In Year 9 we cover:

- Forensic Science
- Chemistry and the environment
- Where does our energy come from?
- How do organisms live together?

At GCSE we follow the AQA trilogy specification. Most able students being entered for HT.

Year 10 & 11 students are provided with a Seneca login, a computer based home learning platform.

#### **Supporting learning**

All students in all year groups are provided with a knowledge organiser at the start of each topic, it contains information on the contents of the topic in an easy to learn format.

We encourage our Year 7 and 8 students to attend our weekly evening science club to enhance their understanding and enjoyment of our subject.

#### **Teaching staff**

At OSSMA we are very lucky to have a full complement of well qualified science specialists to deliver our curriculum.

Our staff are friendly and supportive with the needs of our students at the heart of everything we do.

we are passionate about our subject and aim to bring this enthusiasm to every lesson we teach.



# Communications



All students are offered the opportunity to:

- Go on regular theatre visits
- Enter national writing competitions.

# **English, English Literature**

'Creating inquisitive readers, writers and speakers'

The English faculty develops students into empathetic, resilient and hardworking learners who have the world opened up to them through the study of English.

Through expert teaching and an ambitious, challenging, knowledge rich and skill-driven curriculum, students become confident readers, writers and speakers.

Students are given opportunities to take part in various extra-curricular activities or trips including theatre visits, speaking competitions, writing competitions and Mock Trials.

The English faculty is dedicated to ensuring that students achieve outstanding outcomes and are able to compete with anyone, anywhere.

## Literacy

Literacy is embedded into the curriculum across the academy. All lessons have a strong literacy focus with key words. We are passionate about reading too. There is a strong reading culture which is supported by various initiatives, such as Accelerated Reader, D.E.A.R Time (Drop Everything And Read), form time and catch-up literacy sessions and, of course, World Book Day. Our weekly WOW word is used to develop students' vocabulary and is displayed around the academy as a prompt. Students are encouraged to "Say it, Spell it, Define it!" All form classes have a literacy focus that encourages participation in the weekly Literacy Quiz.



# **Business** and **Computing**



### **Business Studies**

Business studies is a subject central to our ethos. It promotes the skills of teamwork, problem solving, independent thought and effective communication. These are the attributes most valued by employers and essential in helping students achieve economic well-being.

Students will be exposed to the world of work through guest speakers and visits to local and national businesses. Students get to know the relevance of their studies and where skills can be applied once they leave school. Our aim is to prepare our students for lifelong learning.

## **Computing**

Through computing, students understand how technology can be used to enhance both the work place and society. Students are encouraged to explore new ideas and enhance their creativity through a range of software and hardware. Computing offers comprehensive and accessible learning on a subject of key importance to the 21st Century.

The academy is at the forefront of curriculum development. Students have access to multiple pathways across the strands of ICT, computer science and digital media. Students experience a style of learning that has strong links to local employers.

The computing curriculum encourages computational thinking through coding and how computers work, and digital media through video editing and animation.

Art and Design Technology

### **Art**

Within the art department we encourage creativity and ambition. We provide an innovative and reflective art and design experience that allows students to be creative and imaginative. We cover a variety of different art specialisms from drawing, fine art, mixed media collage and photography, to three-dimensional designs. Students will research artists and art movements to discover both conventional and unconventional processes. These will be used to inform their own creative pieces of art using a variety of materials and techniques.

We also provide opportunities to exhibit work and enter local and national Art competitions.

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## **Technology**

Technology at Ormiston Sir Stanley Matthews Academy covers a broad range of subjects including:

- Product design
- Food
- Engineering
- Textiles

These use scientific, mathematical and ICT principles to problem-solve the design and production of real products, prototypes and modelling in 2D and 3D.

We build students' knowledge of the subject as well as linking with business and enterprise to give them access to big projects. Collaboration is a vital part of our curriculum.

All of our technologies offer real-world experience and training and are designed to enthuse and challenge our young people to help make a difference to the future of our country.







### Music

The music department engages students through a wide and varied curriculum, using a range of different skills, instruments and resources. All students have access to our ICT music Apple Macs, recording studio, practice rooms and a class set of keyboards, which are used both in lessons and during extracurricular activities. During music lessons students will experience learning how to play keyboards, ukuleles, drum kits, steel pan drums, African drumming, performing as ensembles and learning about a range of styles of music through performing, listening and composing.

Students are offered the chance to have a one-toone or group instrumental lesson on a variety of instruments such as: strings, brass, woodwind, drum kit, guitar and vocal lessons. The music department runs a variety of extra-curricular activities including: singing club, keyboard club, recording studio sessions and the academy musical.

In KS4 music lessons, students experience job roles within the music industry from performing as artists and instrumentalists to managing and promoting musical products. The music department also gives the students the opportunity to perform in the wider community and within school in a variety of concerts as well as the annual academy musical.



# **Humanities**



## Geography

The geography department is a passionate and friendly department who are dedicated in stimulating an interest in and a sense of wonder about places and people on a global scale. We have high expectations of all our students we teach and aim to encourage their questioning, investigation and critical thinking about issues that affect their lives, now and in the future. Geography strives to inspire students to become global citizens by exploring their own place in the world and their values and responsibilities to other people, to the environment and to the sustainability of the planet. We endeavour to foster a lifelong love of geography through varied activities both inside and outside the classroom to explore geography in different every day contexts.

## Religious Studies (RS)

RS teaches students to respect the views of others and to communicate their own views in a courteous and sensitive way. It prepares students for adult life as it encourages them to consider moral issues both past and present. Students will also learn about different societies, cultures and the six major world religions. Furthermore, RS inspires students to develop their own sense of identity and belonging within a multicultural society. Our aim at OSSMA is to provide a safe and stimulating environment in which all students feel comfortable sharing their beliefs and viewpoints. RS is also available to take at GCSE.

## **History**

Studying the 'human past' offers students opportunities to deepen their understanding of the ideas, beliefs and motivation of peoples of all kinds. It also provides insight into events and developments that have formed and influenced modern society. History also develops important skills such as analysing and evaluating information, summarising and organising ideas, and constructing clear, logical arguments both verbally and in writing.

These are vital skills for a range of careers from areas of obvious relevance such as heritage work, teaching or research, to fields like journalism, law, accountancy and management, the civil service and even medicine and beyond!

#### History is ideal for students who:

- Have an interest in the way the world has developed through the ages and enjoy investigation and discovery.
- Wish to develop their analytical skills, enjoy debate and like putting forward a well-argued case.
- Want to study a subject which encourages them to consider evidence and make up their own minds.
- Want to keep their options open or want to combine humanities with other subjects such as science.

#### Links

History combines well with a number of other subjects and is very well regarded both by universities and employers as a qualification for a wide range of courses in Politics, Economics, English, Languages, Art History, Law, Archaeology, Philosophy, Sociology, Theology and many more including Science and Medicine.

## Year 7 Transition

#### **Year 7 Transition**

Ormiston Sir Stanley Matthews Academy recognises that many children find the move to secondary school very exciting, whilst others may find it daunting. We aim to minimise the anxiety and worry that can be present at this time by making sure that all new students experience some time at our academy before their first day. We offer all new students the chance to spend a number of days with us sampling lessons, meeting staff and even using the Bistro. Throughout the academic year we also have members of staff who work in collaboration with primary school staff to develop lessons or projects that can be delivered in the primary school and the academy.

We offer a transition summer school and extended settling process for all new Year 7 students, to ensure students feel welcomed and ready for their new OSSMA journey.

Year 7 also have a designated outdoor area exclusively for students at break and lunch times. This also enhances and encourages a smooth transition in their first year of the academy.

We have excellent transition links with all our local primary schools and offer a number of subject specific days to all of them throughout the year. We offer our own expertise and resources enabling primary schools the opportunity to access areas of the curriculum they otherwise wouldn't, either at OSSMA or their own school.

We also put a huge emphasis on our pastoral care with access to external agencies, e.g. school nurse, counselling services and SEN specialists.

#### Family Lunch

Family lunch is the opportunity for our students to sit, eat and discuss together, themes and topics connected to the wider curriculum. We use this as an opportunity for students to develop their communication skills, build and respond to different opinions and speak publicly in front of their peers. It is also an opportunity for students to show their gratitude to each other and those around them for the kindness they are shown. This is done daily through public affirmations of thanks. These skills and values are at the heart of our academy ethos and will leave a lasting and positive impression upon our students.

The school develops articulate, self-assured learners who have a real pride in their school and their appearance. They thrive, academically and socially, in a warm and trusting environment.



Personal Development

As well as doing all we can to ensure that your child achieves academically at OSSMA, we firmly believe that it is just as important to develop your child as a person and give them experiences which can help shape their attitude towards careers, travel, hard work, health and fitness and many other aspects of everyday life. Our 'OSSMA Pledge' is designed to outline the enrichment opportunities your child can take advantage of throughout their time with us. From experiencing overseas travel, joining after school clubs, experiencing outdoor education opportunities, taking part in regular debate, visiting the opera or theatre, going to see top level sporting events such as Wimbledon, Premier League Football matches, rugby and other international sporting events. We will encourage your child to visit the world's most prestigious universities and take part in careers events to help them to appreciate the wide and varied career opportunities available to them. We will make sure that they appreciate that manners, politeness, and consideration for others are just as important in their lives as their academic qualifications.

We look forward to taking you child on a journey of self-discovery and unlimited possibilities.

We have a wide range of extra-curricular activities that your child can take part in before school, during lunchtime and after school, such as:

- Chess club
- Cookery club

Sport

- Music
- Lego club
- STEM

• Drama

The school's work to promote pupils' personal development and welfare is outstanding.



## **Contact Us**



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