



It has been a fantastic start to the new academic year at OSSMA, and it has been wonderful to welcome our students back to the academy.

Our Year 7 students have made an amazing start. They have settled into academy life incredibly well, showing confidence, enthusiasm and a real willingness to embrace all that OSSMA has to offer. It has been fantastic to see them finding their way around the academy, making new friends and becoming an important part of our school community.

We would also like to extend a very warm welcome to our new Head Girl, Layla Jai Till and Head Boy, Oliver Williams who have taken on these important leadership roles with enthusiasm and commitment. They are excellent role models for our whole school community, and we are incredibly proud of them.

We have also been impressed with our Year 11 students. They have made a really positive start to their final year, demonstrating maturity, focus and a clear determination to achieve their very best. We know this is an important year for them, and our staff are committed to providing the support, challenge and encouragement they need to make it a successful one.

It was also wonderful to see so many families attend our Open Evenings recently. The fantastic turnout was a real reflection of the strength of our academy community and the interest in what OSSMA has to offer. I would like to thank all of the staff and students who worked so hard to make these events such a success. Our students were, as always, fantastic ambassadors for the academy, showcasing their enthusiasm, confidence and pride in OSSMA.

Thank you, as always, to our parents and carers for your continued support. Working together, we can ensure that every student has the opportunity to thrive and achieve their very best. I wish everyone a happy, successful and positive term ahead.

Kelly Hassall
Principal

DIARY DATES

Fri 23 Oct

Last day of term

Mon 2 Nov

Academy open to staff and students

Mon 2 Nov - Fri 13 Dec

Year 11 Mock Exams

Wed 18 Nov

Year 8 Parents Evening

Wed 16 Dec

Year 11 Mock Results Day

Fri 18 Dec

Last day of term

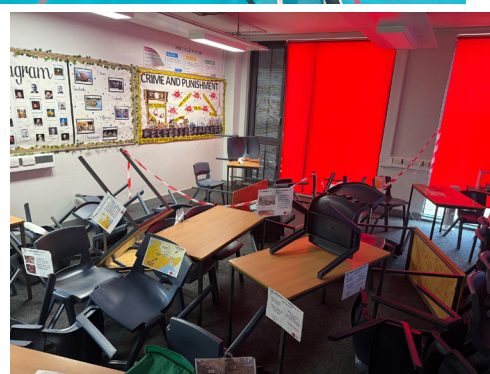


YEAR 6 OPEN EVENING

A huge thank you to all the parents and prospective students who joined us for our Open Evening. It was wonderful to welcome so many families into OSSMA and showcase everything our academy has to offer.

We are incredibly proud of our amazing students, dedicated staff and supportive academy community, and we love the opportunity to share what makes OSSMA such a fantastic place to learn, grow and succeed.

Dont forget to submit applications for siblings of current students by Saturday 31st October.



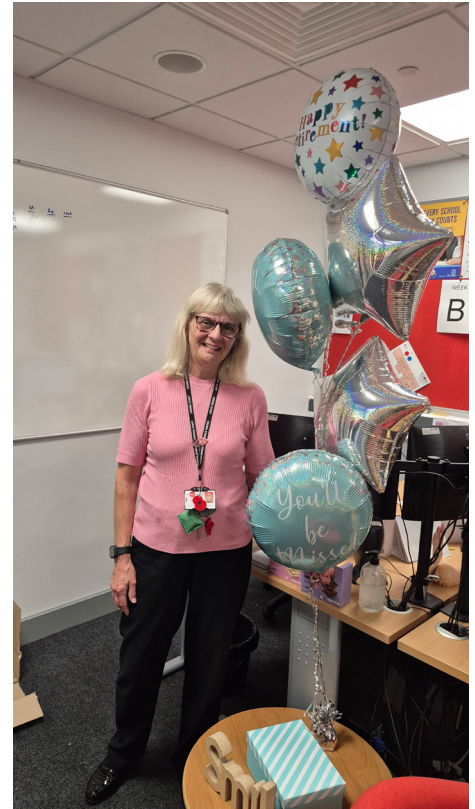
AMAZING ATTENDANCE

What an amazing start we've had for the new academic year. Our Year 7 students have been absolute stars, embracing secondary school life with smiles and extremely good manners! Definitely a cohort that we will remember for all the right reasons!

Despite the academy being hit with both a sickness bug and a flu virus mid-September our attendance has still improved on last year, so thank you to the students whose resilience has shone through whilst not feeling their best... sometimes it is mind over matter. Also thank you to the parents and carers who put their child's attendance to school as a priority. We do understand sometimes students are too poorly to attend school and if that is the case, please accept this polite reminder it is parents and carers responsibility to let us know of their absence on a daily basis.

Attendance and punctuality is now a whole school focus and a regular topic of conversation in forms, assemblies and 1:1 chats with students. We have weekly focused time in the forms each week, where students learn how good attendance and good punctuality is important in life after education. Please be reminded that students should be on their respective yards by 8.35am in readiness to move into forms by 8.40am. Arrival after 8.40am is classed as being late to the Academy, and this may result in an after-school detention.

Sadly for us, at the end of September, we said goodbye to Mrs Sanders, our Attendance Administrator, who has made the decision to retire from the Academy after 23 years of dedication to not only the Academy and the students but the community of Blurton as well. We are going to miss her so much, but this is well deserved and we hope she enjoys every minute of it.



DRAMA WORKSHOP

Our Year 10 GCSE Drama students recently participated in an engaging and thought-provoking workshop with Loudmouth Education and Theatre Company. Students watched the company perform an original piece devised around a sensitive and challenging topic, before exploring the creative process behind its development. The performers then shared valuable insights into their approach to devising, allowing students to gain a deeper understanding of how ideas can be developed into meaningful and impactful theatrical performances.

Students were given the opportunity to practically explore the company's devising methods through a range of drama activities, developing their skills in collaboration, creativity, characterisation and the communication of challenging themes. The skills and techniques gained throughout the workshop will support students as they begin working towards their first GCSE Drama component, particularly as they develop and refine their own devised performances.

Students commented positively on how effectively the actors handled such a sensitive topic with care and professionalism. They also highlighted how the discussion and practical activities had provided them with new insights into the devising process and encouraged them to think more creatively about how challenging themes can be explored through drama.



SPORTING SUCCESSES

Recently our Year 9 netball team participated in the U14 Netball Festival. Considering some have never played in a competitive match before, they were brilliant. With 2 wins, 2 draws and 2 losses, they managed to come runners up overall in their group. So proud of them all for stepping up to the challenge!

Well done to Jaime O'R, Audrey B, Amelia K, Faith R, Maizie M, Daisy C, Bella D, Lacie-Mae S, Ebony W and Shekeinah P. And finally, our top cheerleader Lyla B (out with an injury).

Our Year 10 netball team also travelled to the U16 Netball Festival. They were absolutely incredible! They only lost 1 match all night (5-4 to a team full of y11 players) and they fought their socks off and placed 2nd overall in their group. Well done to Roqaya A, Livia D, Grace W, Robyn A, Losana B, Leedz M, Annabelle W, Abi B and Katie S.

Finally our students represented the academy at Cross Country. In Year 7 it was Rocky P, Bobby P (came 3rd overall in age group), Roberts M, Noah SH and Henry R (came 13th overall in age group).

In Year 8 and 9 there was Harvey M (8) (came 14th overall in age group which included Y9s), Hasnaat M (9), Caleb-Julian B (8) and Jack B (8)

And Year 10 and 11 it was Will K and Tom S. An amazing turnout!

 Extra-Curricular Timetable 2026-2027					
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Before School (7.45am - 8.20am)	Tennis	Table Tennis	Basketball	Badminton	Fitness Suite
			Reading Club (Mrs George LRC - All Years)		
Y8-11 Lunchtime (1.25pm - 2.10pm) Y7 Lunchtime: (12.25pm - 1.25pm) (Wed - 12.55pm - 1.55pm)	Football (3G)	Football (3G)	Football (3G)	Football (3G)	Football (3G)
	Badminton (Sports Hall)	Badminton (Sports Hall)	Badminton (Sports Hall)	Badminton (Sports Hall)	Badminton (Sports Hall)
	Chess Club (Miss Prince F57 - Y8-11)		Coffee & Cake Club (Miss Tweats G19 - Y8-11)		
	Creative Writing Club (Mr J Smith F58 - Y8-11)				
After School (3.25pm - 4.25pm) (Wed 2.10pm - 3.10pm)	SCFC Football (All genders)	Netball (Sports Hall)	SCFC Multisports (3G/Sports Hall)	Badminton (Sports Hall)	Cricket (Sports Hall)
	Tennis (Sports Hall)			Shrek Jr The Musical (Mrs Parkes/Jenkins - Theatre - Invitation Only)	Dance Club (Mrs Parkes - Dance Studio Y7-11)
	Volleyball (Sports Hall)			Warhammer Club (Mr Aouane-Willis G71 - All Years)	
	Star Trek Watch Club (Mr J Smith - F58 All Years)				
	Shrek Jr The Musical (Mrs Parkes/Jenkins - Theatre - Invitation Only)				
Colour Reference	PE Extra-Curricular Clubs	Subject Specific Extra-Curricular Clubs	Please speak to the member of staff running the club for further information		

PREPARING FOR MOCK EXAMS

As our Year 11 students prepare for their upcoming mock examinations, we would like to wish them the very best of luck and remind them that these exams are an important opportunity to demonstrate the progress they have made so far.

Mock exams are designed to help students experience the examination process, identify areas for improvement and build confidence ahead of their final examinations. They are also an excellent opportunity for students to see which revision strategies work best for them and where they may need to focus their efforts. The timetable can be accessed [here](#)

We encourage all of our Year 11 students to make the most of the time available to them by:

Creating a realistic revision timetable and sticking to it.

Using a range of revision techniques, including flashcards, mind maps, quizzes and practice questions.

Completing past papers to become familiar with examination questions and timings.

Identifying areas they find challenging and asking their teachers for support.

Planning ahead and avoiding leaving revision until the last minute.

Getting plenty of sleep, eating well and taking regular breaks to support their wellbeing.

Believing in themselves and remembering that every small step towards their goals makes a difference.

We would also like to remind parents and carers that your support at home can make a huge difference. Helping your child establish a quiet space for revision, encouraging a healthy routine and simply asking how they are feeling can provide valuable reassurance during what can be a stressful time.

Year 11, we are incredibly proud of you and all that you have achieved so far. These mock examinations are another important step on your journey towards your GCSEs. Approach them with confidence, work hard and, most importantly, believe in what you can achieve.

Good luck, Year 11! We are behind you every step of the way!



STAFFORDSHIRE
POLICE

ESCOOTERS & THE LAW



DO YOU KNOW THE LAW IF YOU HAVE AN E-SCOOTER?

What is the law if you have an e-scooter?

You can buy one but you can't ride it on a UK public road, cycle lane or pavement. The only place an e-scooter can be used is on private land with the landowner's permission.

Why is this?

E-scooters are classified as Powered Transporters, so they are treated as motor vehicles and subject to the same legal requirements such as:

- MOT
- Licensing
- Tax
- Insurance

As e-scooters do not have number plates, signalling ability and don't always have visible rear lights, they can't be used legally on the roads.

What happens if you are stopped?

We understand the public's support for environmentally friendly modes of transport. We want to work with the public to make sure the roads are safe for everyone.

Following controlled trials of e-scooter hire in two Staffordshire towns these have since come to an end due to the risk and legal implications.

E-scooters are subject to the rules and regulations outlined in the Road Traffic Act 1988. There have been prosecutions in Staffordshire of e-scooter riders in relation to dangerous driving and other offences resulting in their disqualification.

What is a section 59?

Section 59 of the Police Reform Act allows police to give road users a warning if they are reported to have used their vehicle in a manner which causes alarm, distress or annoyance. Staffordshire Police also have the powers to seize vehicles. Please make sure you keep your e-scooter on private land so this doesn't happen to you.

Report a crime to us at staffordshire.police.uk or call 101. In an emergency call 999.



STAFFORDSHIRE
POLICE

BEHAVIOUR CURRICULUM AT OSSMA

Building **knowledge**, **character**
and **positive behaviours** for
success in school and beyond.

Every
child.
Every
lesson.
Every
day.



OUR CREECK VALUES

CONFIDENCE



RESILIENCE



ENTHUSIASM



EMPATHY



CHALLENGE



KINDNESS



WHAT IS THE BEHAVIOUR CURRICULUM?

Our behaviour curriculum teaches and reinforces the **knowledge, skills and behaviours** that help everyone to learn, thrive and be ready for the opportunities ahead.

It is delivered through **whole school assemblies, form time, tutor activities and across all lessons** at OSSMA.



WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?



Creates a safe and respectful school community where everyone can learn.



Develops the knowledge and behaviours needed for success in school and beyond.



Builds confidence, resilience and independence.



Helps students make positive choices and keep future options open.



HOW DO WE DELIVER IT?



Whole school assemblies that focus on key themes.



Form time activities and discussions each week.



Reinforced in lessons through routines and consistent expectations.



Real life scenarios, student voice and reflection.



Linked to our CREECK values and rewards.

KEY THEMES THROUGHOUT THE YEAR



HIGH
EXPECTATIONS



RESPECT
AND KINDNESS



PERSONAL
RESPONSIBILITY



SENSE
OF DUTY



KNOWLEDGE
IS POWER

THE IMPACT

Our behaviour curriculum helps to create:



Calmer classrooms
and corridors.



More time for
learning.



Students who are
confident, resilient and
positive role models.



Better opportunities
for the future.

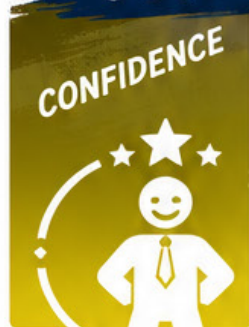
EVERY CHILD. EVERY LESSON. EVERY DAY.



REWARDS & RECOGNITION AT OSSMA

When students get it right, we notice it and we celebrate it!

OUR CREECK VALUES



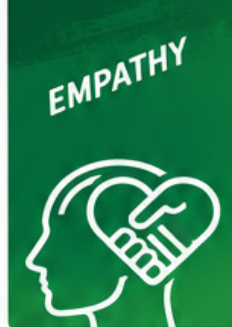
CONFIDENCE



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THOUSANDS OF CREECK POINTS AWARDED THIS MONTH!

Our staff continue to recognise students who demonstrate our CREECK values through their effort, attitude, behaviour and the positive contribution they make to our academy community.

CREECK BADGES

Students can also earn individual CREECK badges by consistently demonstrating each of our six values.

1 badge is awarded for every 250 points in each value.



PRAISE AND REWARDS PYRAMID



WIDER RECOGNITION



REWARD TOKENS

Recognising students who particularly stand out.



WOW WEDNESDAY

Celebrating positive students each week.



PRINCIPAL'S AWARD

Recognising exceptional effort and contribution.



POSITIVE COMMUNICATION HOME

Sharing success with families.

MORE THAN JUST THE HIGHEST TOTALS

Our rewards are not just about the students with the highest points totals. We also want to celebrate:



Consistency
in making positive choices every day.



Improvement
in attitude, behaviour and effort.



Going above and beyond
to help others.

EVERY CHILD. EVERY LESSON. EVERY DAY.





FURTHER EDUCATION OPEN EVENTS 2026/2027

(Please check websites for details and to pre-register).



COLLEGES

Stoke on Trent College

Cauldon & Burslem Campus



01782 208208



Wednesday 14th October 2026
5pm – 8:00pm
Wednesday 18th November 2026
5pm – 8:00pm
Wednesday 10th February 2027
5pm – 8:00pm
Saturday 8th May 2026
10am – 1:00pm

City of Stoke-On-Trent Sixth Form College



01782 848736



Wednesday 7th October 2026
5:00pm – 7:00pm
Tuesday 17th November 2026
5:00pm – 7:00pm
Thursday 11th March 2027
5:00pm – 7:00pm

Newcastle College (NSCG)



NEWCASTLE
AND STAFFORD
COLLEGES GROUP

01782 254212



Thursday 8th October 2026
5.30pm – 8:00pm
Wednesday 11th November 2026
5.30pm – 8:00pm
Saturday 23rd January 2027
10:00am – 12noon
Saturday 24th April 2027
10:00am – 12noon

Stafford College (NSCG)



NEWCASTLE
AND STAFFORD
COLLEGES GROUP

01785 223800



Thursday 22nd October 2026
5.30pm – 8:00pm
Wednesday 25th November 2026
5.30pm – 8:00pm
Saturday 6th February 2027
10:00am – 12noon
Saturday 8th May 2027
10:00am – 12noon

Leek College (NSCG)



NEWCASTLE
AND STAFFORD
COLLEGES GROUP

0800 074 0099



Wednesday 4th November 2026
5:00pm – 7:00pm
Saturday 20th March 2027
10am – 12:00noon
Saturday 19th June 2027
10am – 12:00noon

Reaseheath College



01270 625131



Please check college website
for times.
Saturday 26th September 2026
Saturday 17th October 2026
Tuesday 10th November 2026
Saturday 28th November 2026
Saturday 30th January 2027
Saturday 20th March 2027
Saturday 24th April 2027
Saturday 12th June 2027

SCHOOL SIXTH FORMS

Please check websites to confirm details. For school sixth forms such as those detailed below, please see their websites. They usually have one open event and these normally take place in November.



St Joseph's 6th Form College

01782 848008

<http://www.stjosephstrentvale.com/>



St Margaret Ward Catholic School and Arts College

01782 821559

<https://stmargaretward.co.uk/sixth-form/>



St John Fisher

<https://www.saintjohnfishercc.co.uk/>



St Thomas More Catholic College

01782 882900

<https://www.stmca.org.uk/sixth-form/>



Blythe Bridge High School

01782 392 519

<https://www.bb-hs.co.uk/>

TRAINING PROVIDERS

Please check websites to confirm details.



Martec Training

01782 717272

<https://www.martectraining.co.uk/>



Equality Training

01785 815115

<https://equality.training/>



Nacro Training

01782 332699

<https://www.nacro.org.uk/education/education-centres/nacro-longton-centre/>

USEFUL INFORMATION



WHAT ARE OPEN EVENTS?

They are an ideal way of finding out what it will be like to study at the provider and what is included in courses that interest you. You will have the opportunity to speak to teaching staff and current students and ask any questions you may have.



HOW MANY COLLEGES AND COURSES CAN I APPLY FOR?

It is a good idea to apply to **at least two providers and courses** in case you change your mind, or don't get the GCSE grades you were hoping for. You can decide which to start when you get your GCSE results.



I HAVEN'T GOT MY GCSE RESULTS YET, SO HOW CAN I APPLY?

Use your predicted grades which you can obtain from your form tutor. The college will use these as an indication of the level you are working at. **They won't confirm your place/starting level until you get your GCSE results in August.**

EXAMPLE QUESTIONS TO ASK AT OPEN EVENTS



- ☒ What GCSE grades will I need for the course which interests me?
- ☒ Is the course exam-based, assignments and coursework, hands-on practical learning, or a mix?
- ☒ What topics will I study on the course? Will I need to purchase any equipment?
- ☒ What careers can a qualification in this subject lead onto?
- ☒ What are your previous results in this subject?
- ☒ Is there any financial help available towards the cost of a bus pass or any equipment I might need for my course?