

Ormiston Victory Academy

Curriculum Policy

Policy version control

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Introduction

The curriculum is outstanding because:

- It enables all students to reach the highest levels of achievement whilst providing them with the opportunities for personal development.
- It ensures that those at risk of not having high levels of literacy have additional opportunities to progress.
- It promotes and sustains a thirst for knowledge and understanding and a love of learning.
- It covers a wide range of subjects and provides opportunities for academic, technical and sporting excellence.
- It has a positive impact on all students' behaviour and contributes very well to students' academic achievement, their physical well-being, and their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.
- It ensures that those at risk of not achieving well in English or mathematics have additional opportunities to progress.
- It is personalised to the needs of every individual student.
- It is continuously reviewed and where necessary adapted to ensure all of the above.

Principles

The curriculum at Ormiston Victory Academy is based upon the following principles:

- Ensuring students leave the academy with the qualifications necessary to choose their next step in education.
- Ensuring students leave the academy with the necessary skills to be successful, both in further education and their day to day lives.
- Ensuring every student makes above expected progress in English and mathematics.
- Providing the opportunity for every student to reach their potential.
- Retaining the flexibility to personalise individual student pathways, both through subject choice and within subject areas.
- Not compromising on students' health and creativity.
- Maintaining breadth and balance in Years 7, 8 and 9 so students have a wide range of options at Key Stage 4.
- Providing students with the time to study their chosen subjects in depth.
- Quality is more important than quantity.

These are achieved through:

- Allowing students extra time for English and mathematics where necessary. The focus is to support students with low levels of literacy and/or numeracy as soon as they join the academy. This extra time will not impact upon creative or vocational subjects, thus not impacting negatively on students' areas of strength.
- Based upon their ability and rate of progress, students may follow different pathways within the same subjects. This includes opportunities for early entry where appropriate and to take additional qualifications.
- Throughout Years 7 to 9, four hours a fortnight of dedicated lesson time are given to physical education. Two hour a fortnight is given to Personal, Social, Health and Economic education; this is

- delivered by each child's form tutor. The arts, humanities and technology all receive equal time in Years 7 - 9. Extra enrichment is also offered every morning and evening.
 - A two-year Key Stage 4. Students make their GCSE option choices in Year 9.
 - Key Stage 4 qualifications are structured in such a way to fulfil the government's 'Eight' criteria; providing a breadth with appropriate challenge.
 - Options are structured in such a way so students who wish to may fulfil the Ebacc criteria.
 - High ability students have the opportunity to study an additional option. This is through a mixture of taught lessons and independent study.
 - The majority of students chose three options for Key Stage 4. This gives them six hours a fortnight of dedicated lesson time in each of their chosen subjects, for the full two years and 1 hour per fortnight for their enrichment choice.
- Notes:
- The Ebacc is a measure of success in a range of academic subjects. To meet the Ebacc measure, in addition to English, mathematics and science, students need to take geography or history as well as a language.
 - The government's 'Eight' criteria is met by taking English and mathematics, any three additional Ebacc subjects and any three other subjects.

Current Curriculum Time Allocation (2025/2026)

Subject	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Sixth Form
English	8	8	8	8	8	Students take a minimum of 3 A-levels or equivalent qualifications.
Mathematics	8	8	8	8	8	
Science	6	6	6	8	8	
PSHE	2	2	2	2	2	
RE	2	2	1	2	1	
PE	4	4	4	3	3	
Computing	1	1	2			Any student without a GCSE Grade 4 or above in English or mathematics must attend lessons for the relevant resit.
Creative Studies	4	4	4			
Geography	3	3	3			
History	3	3	3			
MFL	5	5	5			
Performing Arts	2	2	2			
Music	2	2	2			
Option 1				3	3	
Option 2				3	3	
Option 3				3	3	
Enrichment Option				1	1	

Notes:

- Students entering the academy below average in English or mathematics receive additional intervention in those subjects.
- Creative Studies and Performing Arts will run on a rotation where timetabling allows this to be effective.
- The school day finishes at 4.00pm each day for Year 11 and Sixth Form, unless otherwise stated.