

Parent Bulletin, 11th September 2026



Events wc. 14th September 2026

Week A	
Monday 14 th September	
Tuesday 15 th September	
Wednesday 16 th September	
Thursday 17 th September	
Friday 18 th September	

Message from the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of our first full week of term, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our students, staff and families for helping to ensure such a positive start to the academic year.

It has been wonderful to see how quickly our new Year 7 students have settled into life at the school. They have approached the week with enthusiasm, confidence and maturity, and we are delighted with how well they have adapted to their new routines and surroundings. One of the things that has pleased me most this week has been the kindness shown by our older students towards their new schoolmates, these small acts make a significant difference to the culture of our school. Kindness is one of the foundations of a successful community, and I encourage all our students to continue looking for opportunities to make a positive difference to the people around them.

This week also saw Year 7 and Year 9 students having their school photographs taken. They represented the school exceptionally well and looked incredibly smart, reflecting the pride they take in being part of our school community. Our Year 11 students have returned with a strong sense of purpose and are already demonstrating a clear focus on the important year ahead. We are impressed by their attitude, commitment and determination as they begin preparations for their GCSE examinations.

Meanwhile, Year 10 students have started their GCSE courses and are embracing the new challenges and opportunities that come with this exciting stage of their education. We look forward to supporting them as they work towards their qualifications over the next two years.

Across the school, students have made an excellent start, with large numbers of achievement points being awarded in recognition of positive behaviour, effort and high-quality work. It has been fantastic to see so many students demonstrating our values and striving to be their best every day.

There is a real sense of optimism and excitement around the school, and we are looking forward to all that this year will bring. Thank you, as always, for your continued support and partnership. Together, we will ensure that every student is able to thrive, grow and achieve their very best.

I hope you all have a restful and enjoyable weekend.

NGRT Testing for year 7 - 10

As part of our commitment to supporting literacy and ensuring that every student makes the best possible progress, students in year 7 to 10 will shortly be completing the New Group Reading Test (NGRT) in school.

The NGRT is an online reading assessment that helps us understand students' reading abilities. It measures key reading skills, including:

- * Reading comprehension
- * Vocabulary knowledge

* Ability to understand and interpret written texts

The assessment is not an examination, and students do not need to revise or prepare for it. The test is designed to identify each student's current reading level so that we can provide appropriate support and challenge where needed. The test is adaptive, which means that the questions adjust according to students' responses. If a student answers correctly, they may receive more challenging questions. This helps the assessment accurately identify their reading level.

The results will be used to:

- Monitor reading progress
- Identify students who may benefit from additional support
- Recognise students who require greater challenge
- Help teachers plan effective teaching and intervention
- We encourage students to approach the assessment positively, read each question carefully, and do their best.

The test normally takes around 30 minutes to complete.

If you have any questions about the NGRT assessment, please do not hesitate to contact me: K.Froede@oeacademy.co.uk. Thank you for your continued support.

Post-16

Post-16 education is important because it helps young people develop the knowledge, skills and qualifications they need for their future. After completing GCSEs, students can choose from different pathways such as A levels, T levels, vocational courses, apprenticeships or other forms of further education.

Making an informed decision is important because the choice made after GCSEs can affect future education, employment and career opportunities. Students should consider their interests, strengths, career goals and the entry requirements for the courses or jobs they are interested in.

It is also important to research different options rather than choosing based only on what friends are doing or what others expect.

To help with these decisions there is a Post 16 evening being held at the Academy on Wednesday 30th September 4.30pm-6.30pm. It would be brilliant to see all Year 11 students, coming along to find out more information, seek advice and guidance and speak to providers about their next steps.

It is also important to go and have a look around a number of different Post 16 establishments and see what they have to offer and get a feel for the environment. There are a number of open evenings taking place between now and Christmas. All the dates and lots other career information is displayed in the careers area, outside Mrs Fosker's office.

Upcoming open events are:

- Wednesday, 30th September, 4:30pm-6:30pm - Post 16 Evening at Ormiston Endeavour Academy
- Suffolk New College, 1st October, 5:pm-8pm
- Suffolk One. 3rd October - 9:30am-12:30pm
- Northgate Sixth Form, 7th October - 5:30pm-8pm
- West Suffolk College, 7th October - 5:30pm-7:30pm
- Suffolk Rural, 10th October - 10am-12pm

Art Lessons

The Art department recommends that students bring in a protected top such as an old shirt or T-shirt (not hoodies) to wear in lessons to protect their uniform. Aprons are available in classrooms.

Sketchbook Collection

Students have until 18th September to collect their sketchbooks from last year.

High School Musical

We are looking for ten singers from our new Year 7 students to join the cast of High School Musical and boost our volume! Students have been asked to sign up in school via the sheet on the drama studio door, and auditions are next Friday the 18th September from 3-4pm. Tickets will go on sale in due course. Students MUST be available for both shows (Wed 21st and Thurs 22nd October) and rehearsals until 5 or 6pm every Thursday until the show dates.



Open Evening - Wednesday 23rd September 2026, 5pm -7pm

We warmly invite prospective families and students to join us for our Open Evening on Wednesday 23rd September 2026, from 5pm to 7pm. This is a wonderful opportunity to explore our school, meet staff and students, discover what we have to offer, and find out more about life at our school. Our principal will give presentations at 5.30pm and 6.30pm, so please join us at whichever time is most convenient for you. We look forward to welcoming you soon.

If you are unable join us on the 23rd – please complete the form linked here [Open Morning Expression of Interest](#) as we will also be running a number of morning tours to see the school in action.

School will close early on the 23rd September to all students. Students will be allowed to leave site after they have eaten their lunch and registered for the afternoon. Any Student volunteers will be notified of the Plan for Open Evening.

PSHE Curriculum – Autumn Term 2026

This term students will be taught the following topics should you wish to discuss them further at home:

Year 7 –

Unit	Lesson titles
Looks and Labels	How are first impressions made?
	Who shapes who we are?
	What affects how we feel about ourselves?
Relationships and Respect	What makes a relationship healthy?
	How are families different?
	Why can friendships be difficult to manage?
	How can we recognise bullying?
	What can happen when online behaviour goes too far?
	How can I take a stand when I see bullying taking place?
Equality and Discrimination	Is everyone treated equally?
	What are stereotypes?
	How might people with disabilities be treated?
	How can we deal with racism?
	What support can I offer to others?

Year 8 –

Unit	Lesson titles
Health and Help	How can I get the right support to manage my health?
	What should I know about common health conditions?

	How can I help someone who has had an accident?
	How can vaccinations improve public health?
	Should vaccinations be compulsory?
Crime and Influence	What do I need to know about gangs?
	What should I know about knife crime?
	What is grooming?
	What does 'county lines' mean?
	What is extremism?
Mind and Mood (This unit will continue into the spring term)	What are hate crimes?
	Is happiness the same for everyone?
	How can we support others mental health?
	How might people be influenced?

Year 9 –

Unit	Lesson titles
Spending and Saving	How can bank accounts help people to manage money?
	How can I ensure that my money is kept safe?
	What are my rights as a consumer?
	What are the potential effects of gambling?
Condoms and Communication (This unit will continue into the spring term)	How can good communication support healthy relationships?
	How can we manage pressure in relationships?
	How can online behaviour and content affect relationships?

Year 10 –

Unit	Lesson titles
Rights and Responsibilities	How do human rights protect our freedoms?
	How should human rights be balanced?
	Do I have the right to say whatever I want?
	Can protests go too far?
	Should my privacy be protected at all costs?
	How can ideas about honour affect people's freedom?
	How does the law protect bodily autonomy?
Managing my Health	How can I optimise my physical health?
	How can I identify meningitis and strokes?
	What are the wider effects of vaping?
	What else should I know about drugs and alcohol?
	What is cancer?
	How can I examine myself?
	What parts of our bodies can be donated to others?

Year 11 –

Unit	Lesson titles
Stress and Success	How can I manage stress?
	How can I develop my resilience?
	How can I deal with disappointment?
	How might my health affect my exam performance?
Relationship Realities (This unit will continue into the spring term)	How can I establish healthy and respectful relationships?
	How can I recognise and respond to pressure and exploitation in relationships?

	How can people be exploited and how to establish boundaries in healthy relationships.
	How realistic is pornography?
	How might pornography influence attitudes and behaviours?
	How can I maturely end a relationship?
	When does behaviour in relationships go too far?

If you have any questions about the PSHE curriculum this term, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Pettit (l.pettit@oeacademy.co.uk)

PE Cross Country Notice

Starting 21/09/2025 for 2 weeks students will be taking part in cross country during their scheduled PE sessions. This may mean that their trainers could become damp and muddy. Please could they bring their school shoes or another pair of trainers and socks to change into and a bag to put the damp trainers in. They will also need to be mindful of the weather, bring asthma pumps (if asthmatic) and perhaps an additional drink.



Contacting PE Staff

If your son/daughter needs to be excused from their PE lesson, please would parents email their child's PE teacher on the morning of their PE lesson with the reason they need to be excused. As a reminder, the PE staff email addresses are: Mrs L Bradbrook - l.bradbrook@oeacademy.co.uk Mr M Bushell – m.bushell@oeacademy.co.uk Mr J Foulger - j.foulger@oeacademy.co.uk Mr A O'Donnell - a.odonnell@oeacademy.co.uk Mrs L Pettit - l.pettit@oeacademy.co.uk Mr S Warner-Biss - s.biss@oeacademy.co.uk

Jewellery and hair ties

We have a significant number of students who are arriving to their PE lessons wearing too much jewellery and without a hair tie. Please can you ensure that your child wears the minimal amount of jewellery and also bring in a hair tie on the days that they have PE to ensure the smooth start to their PE lessons.

Many thanks PE Team

Breakfast Club – Free Breakfast Club Available Every Morning!

Did you know our Breakfast Club is completely free for all students? It's a great way to start the day with a healthy breakfast, time to socialise with friends, and be ready to learn. We look forward to welcoming students each morning! Breakfast Club starts at 7.30am - latest entry is 08.05am.



Lateness to School

Students should be at their P1 lesson at 8:30am, ready to be met by their P1 teacher and for registration to take place. Any students who arrive after the register has been taken will be marked with a Late and issued with a 30 min detention. Students can come into the Academy at 08.25am.

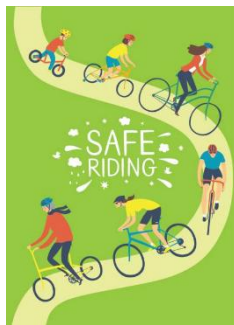
Lost property

Please ensure that all clothing items are clearly labelled with your child's name. If we don't know who they belong to, we can't return them to the owner!



Bike Safety

If your child cycles to school, please remind them to cycle responsibly paying due care and attention to other road users. We have received a report of a near miss involving one of our students. With darker evenings approaching, now is a good time to make sure cyclists have all the recommended safety equipment including lights, helmets and reflective clothing.



Attendance

Regular attendance is essential to help pupils make the most of their learning and school experience. Every day in school provides valuable opportunities to learn, build friendships and develops important skills. We kindly ask parents and carers to ensure that pupils arrive at school on time each day. If your child is unwell and unable to attend, please inform the school no later than 08.30am, either by calling the school on 01473 464545 or by emailing attendance@oeacademy.co.uk



Autumn Term Dates

Friday 23rd October 2026 – Staff Training (Academy closed to Students)
Monday 26th October 2026 – Friday 30th October 2026: Half Term
Friday 4th December 2026 – Staff Training (Academy closed to Students)
Friday 18th December 2026 – Last Day of Autumn Term
Monday 21st December 2026 – Sunday 3rd January 2027: Christmas Holiday