

Ormiston Bolingbroke Academy

Barnfield Avenue, Murdishaw, Runcorn, WA7 6EP

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Principal: Kathryn Evans BA (Hons) NPQH



Ref: KES/MSH

10th July 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

The end of the summer term is fast approaching and there are still many activities taking place.

School will close for all students at 12.15pm on Friday 17th July 2026.

School will reopen in September as follows:-

Wednesday 2nd September 2026 Year 7 only – a separate letter will be sent detailing start times;

Thursday 3rd September 2026 Year 7-11 @ 8.30am;

Friday 4th September 2026 Years 7-12 @ 8.30am;

Monday 7th September 2026 Years 7-13 @8.30am.

Pastoral Structure

There are some changes I wanted to inform you of that will commence in September regarding the current pastoral structure within the academy.

At Ormiston Bolingbroke Academy we have a team of pastoral staff here to support your child's wellbeing and welfare. We strongly believe that for students to achieve their full potential they must feel safe, supported and challenged. As a result of this we have an experienced team who are dedicated to supporting our students and their families.

Pastoral Structure 2026-27

Vice Principal Inclusion: Mrs Porschke

Assistant Principal – Character & Culture: Mrs Hammond

Director of Key Stage 4: Mrs Fenner

Head of Year 11: Miss Carney, Assistant Head of Year 11: Mrs Collier

Head of Year 10: Miss Hulse

Director of Key Stage 3: Mrs Quinn

Head of Year 9: Mr Corcoran

Head of Year 8: Miss Harding, Assistant Head of Year 8: Mr Ellis

Head of Year 7: Mr Houslay

Pastoral Manager Years 7 & 8: Miss Urmson

Pastoral Manager Years 9 & 10: Mr Woods

If you would like to discuss the pastoral support available for your child, please do contact their Head of Year in the first instance who will be happy to help.

Year 11 form time: Interventions in English, Maths & Science

Year 11 form time has been very successful this year and will continue next year. Students have benefitted from revision sessions in the core subjects. It is more important than ever that students arrive on time to school as they will miss out on important revision time.

Uniform and Equipment – Please See Attached Guide

I would also like to take this opportunity to remind you, well in advance, of our uniform and equipment requirements for September. We are very proud of our school uniform at OBA and believe its smart appearance reflects the high standards we set for our students in terms of learning, attitude, and behaviour. As part of this, we have strict expectations that ensure consistency for all.

Most students wear our uniform correctly and with pride and sincere thanks go to those students. I thought it would be useful to include a detailed summary below.

Academy Uniform	Academy PE Kit
White Shirt	OBA branded polo shirt is compulsory for all.
Black Trousers / Black Tailored School Shorts / Black Skirt / Black Pinafore <i>*Skirts and pinafores must be knee length and of a suitable style. Tube/pencil/ PE style skirts are not permitted.</i>	A plain black top can be worn underneath the polo top if it is cold
Dark grey, black, or white socks	Sports socks are only compulsory if wearing shorts
Tights can be black, dark grey or neutral	A choice of shorts / leggings / tracksuit bottoms. Any plain black leggings or tracksuit bottoms from any shop can be worn provided the logo cannot be seen
Black school shoes <i>*Trainers, pumps and heels are not permitted</i>	Astro turf trainers are compulsory for all.
School Specific	Trainers are required
Grey blazer with school logo	<i>*There are specific Astro turf boots available that can be worn indoors – if your child has a pair of these then they will not require trainers as well</i>
School tie (Years 7-10 - House colour, Year 11 - blue tie) <i>*Tie must be worn full length</i>	
Grey or black v neck school jumper or v neck school cardigan (optional)	
1 pair of stud earrings and a wristwatch can be worn <i>*No other jewellery is permitted</i>	All jewellery must be removed for PE

Skirts and pinafores must be of an appropriate length. As a guide this should be at, or just above, the knee. It is parents' responsibility to ensure that the correct length is purchased. It is the student's responsibility to ensure they are worn correctly and not rolled/hitched up. Skirts are available to purchase at a number of shops and online, but please be aware that it needs to be of an appropriate length; this means knee length or just above the knee.

As always, school trousers are a viable alternative.

Uniform can be purchased from Office Bridge Print or Laser School Wear. They do sell a range of school skirts and trousers, but they are for a number of different schools and not school specific to our academy. Please refer to the guide for uniform that is acceptable.

I must stress that any student who returns with a skirt/pinafore of an inappropriate length will not be allowed to attend lessons and the behaviour policy will be invoked immediately.

Hair, Make-up, Jewellery and Accessories

The expectations regarding this are very clear but please be reminded that:

- No false/acrylic/gel nails or varnish is allowed
- Brows must be natural
- Hair should be a natural colour - *extreme colours/styles and accessories are not permitted*
- False eye lashes are not permitted
- The only jewellery that is permitted is one pair of silver or gold small studs and a wristwatch.

Shoes

- Shoes should be plain, black school shoes
- Trainers, pumps and heels are not permitted

Coats

Outdoor coats must be removed on entry to the academy.

Equipment

Here is the basic list of essentials:

- School bag – *handbags are not permitted*
- Pencil case
- 2 black or blue ball point pens
- 2 HB pencils
- Eraser
- Ruler

There is a shop open each morning selling individual equipment or you can purchase a pencil case containing essential equipment for £1, payable on the gateway or in cash. You are also able to purchase new ties from the shop.

Once again, thank you for your support in upholding our standards. It is an important part of our overall behaviour strategy, and it supports our students in being ready for the world of work where uniform is expected across a range of sectors. Sometimes, parents and students question our attention to detail and ask how uniform impacts on learning. The answer to that is simple:

The uniform creates a unique sense of OBA identity. The uniform ensures everyone is equal. Wearing a uniform makes everyone feel that they are 'at work' and it impacts positively on attitudes to learning.

Staff Leavers

At the end of this term, we will say goodbye to staff members who are moving on to new schools and roles. I am sure you will join us in wishing them every success and happiness in the future.

Mobile Phones

As part of the new mobile phone legislation our school continues to be a mobile phone free environment to support learning, wellbeing and social interaction. At the start of the school day students will be required to place their mobile phone in a secure collection box, where they will remain safely stored throughout the day. Phones will be returned to students at the end of the day. Students in 6th Form are permitted phones in the 6th Form area only. All students who fail to hand in their phone will have it confiscated and be placed in isolation, then parents will be asked to collect the phone. This approach is to minimise distractions, encourage greater engagement in learning and create a focused and respectful environment for all members of the school community. We ask parents to support with this.

Lates and Attendance

Good attendance and punctuality are essential to your child's success at school. We ask all parents to ensure your child arrives on time each day ready to begin learning promptly. Rewards and sanctions for punctuality and attendance will continue as per our behaviour policy.

We look forward to welcoming your child back in September and know that our colleagues are excited to be working with them once again. Thank you to them all for their hard work and dedication throughout this year, and we hope you all have an enjoyable and restful summer.

As ever and finally, thank you for your continued support – it is greatly appreciated. Should you require any clarification or assistance, please do not hesitate to get in touch with your child's Form Tutor or Head of Year in the first instance.

Yours sincerely



Kathryn Evans
Principal