

# Venture VOICE

Stay Safe



Ormiston Venture Academy

Edition 41: Summer 2024



the Principals Award SPOTLIGHT

## Results Day '24

### LGBTQ Bake Sale

## Summer School Venture Stylee!

Aspire  
Innovate  
Achieve  
Create

# PROM NIGHT '24

**Results Day 2024**  
More Student Success

**Summer School 2024**  
Fun in the Sun over the Summer Hols!

**Prom Night 2024**  
What a way to send off Year 11s

**Colour Run 2024**  
Raising Funds for two charities

**Create Show 2024**  
Our Creative College showcase

**Sports round-up**  
So many sporting events & heroes

**And it's not even the start of the the new school year!**





# Teacher Training launches at Venture!

## ORMISTON TEACHER TRAINING

**From September 2024, our approach to teacher education is evolving as we enter into a new partnership with the National Institute of Teaching.**

Ormiston Teacher Training – our School-Centred Initial Teacher Training (SCITT) – will deliver high-quality teacher education across four regional campuses situated in the West Midlands, Staffordshire, Norfolk and Suffolk.

We have a commitment to high quality, evidence-informed teacher education and we are on a mission to improve the quality of teacher development across the system.

## Why train with us?

**Our vision is to transform the lives of pupils by nurturing the talents of teachers.**

Our initial teacher training (ITT) programme, in partnership with the National Institute of Teaching (NioT), is a fully immersive school-centred programme – aspiring teachers will be in the classroom from the very start. They are fully supported, and each have a dedicated mentor and core training sessions once a week with the Ormiston Teacher Training team.

As an Associate College of the NioT, we are in the privileged position of being able to offer our aspiring teachers a programme that is rooted in national research whilst reflecting the local contexts of the schools and communities in which they will work. Our future teachers will learn from established experts, including teachers, teacher educators, and specialists in teacher professional development, all of whom are authorities in their fields.

By training to teach with us, you'll have the confidence of knowing that you are participating in a programme that was designed by some of the most experienced teachers and leaders in the country, drawn from four leading school trusts with decades of teacher training between them.

We also know from experience what headteachers look for in new teachers – so we'll ensure that you develop the skills necessary for finding an early career teacher (ECT) role. All our teacher training courses lead to QTS (Qualified Teacher Status), a PGCE (Postgraduate Certificate in Education) and 60 master's level credits.

## About the Norfolk Campus

The Norfolk campus will be based at Ormiston Venture Academy and plays a key role in the development of both new and experienced staff with over a decade of experience in leading training across East Anglia. Through successful delivery of initial teacher training, NQT/ECT programmes, teacher development programmes and leadership qualifications we are proud of the number of educational practitioners we have supported throughout this time.

By training to teach at Ormiston Venture Academy you will be joining an outstanding academy team that has a true ambition for every child and believes in social justice for all.

Our academy is committed to providing a world class education for all students through a relentless focus on personalised first quality teaching in the classroom, enriching opportunities and a supportive and positive pastoral system.

When you become a part of our Venture community you will become a champion for our students and our community.

## Your school placements

Your school placements will take place in any of our OAT and non-OAT partnership schools. For this campus, they include:

- Benjamin Britten Academy of Music & Mathematics
- Broadland High Ormiston Academy
- Notre Dame Academy
- Caister Academy
- Flegg High Ormiston Academy
- City of Norwich School
- Ormiston Denes Academy
- Cliff Park Ormiston Academy
- Thorpe Academy
- Ormiston Venture Academy
- Ormiston Victory Academy

We are now recruiting for the September 2024 cohort. For more information and how to apply, visit the Ormiston Teacher Training website:

[www.ormistonventureacademy.co.uk/OTT-Norfolk](http://www.ormistonventureacademy.co.uk/OTT-Norfolk)

For more information about training to teach with us, please email us on:

[info@ormistonteachertraining.co.uk](mailto:info@ormistonteachertraining.co.uk)

or speak with our director of initial teacher training (ITT), Kaye Patrick on:

[kaye.patrick@ormistonacademies.co.uk](mailto:kaye.patrick@ormistonacademies.co.uk)



*We look forward to receiving your application!*

# What's going on at Venture Academy for 2024

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Keep up-to-date and follow us @OrmistonVenture from X.com

## Welcome back... to an exciting year ahead at Venture!

It is with great pride that I congratulate not just our Senior Year and their sensational academic outcomes but also all students from year 7 through to year 10 for the work they put in every day.

Reviewing the past year has been a true pleasure and one that I can say brings not just a smile but also a true sense of achievement in how this community excels daily. I have seen a superb quality of work in lessons and a truly high standard in books.

I have seen the excellent participation in our extensive wider curriculum outside the classroom. And of course, I have seen firsthand the many ways everyone goes above and beyond for each other in all parts of the academy life.



How could I not be proud of each one of those members that make up our Venture community.

As we say farewell to one year group we welcome our new Year 7 students after another hugely successful Summer School.

Seeing them already showcase our Venture Virtues and truly stepping into the year with a sense of ambition and focus reinforces how strong these virtues are within the academy.

I look forward to the excitement ahead in the year and thank you... students, staff, parents and the wider community in your unrelenting support that makes Venture such an enjoyable place to be a part of.

Regards

*Simon Gilbert-Barnham*  
- Principal

## Welcome all new students and staff...

*On behalf of the local governors at the academy I would like to welcome all new students and staff to the new term.*

I know that everything will be done to help you to settle in and to have an exciting and successful start to the new academic year. Don't forget to ask if you have any questions or concerns in the first few weeks. There will be staff and students ready and pleased to help you to become settled and happy members of the Venture teaching and learning community.

Local governors come from all sorts of backgrounds including business, education, the parent body and the local community, but they all share the role of supporting the academy in its work. It is particularly pleasing when there is good news to pass on to you and this last year has been a splendid one I all respects. Firstly of course we need to congratulate the last year eleven cohort on their outstanding examination results and their development as splendid young adults, and to wish them well as they go on to the next stage of their lives. They will always be part of Venture.

Secondly we congratulate all other students at the academy who continue to excel in the face of the unavoidable disruption of their education in lockdown, whether here or at their primary schools. Their commitment has been exemplary and their achievements are ones to be proud of.

Thirdly, we thank all staff at the academy for their vision and hard work in the past year and their determination that all students here are valued equally and will be supported to succeed in the coming months.

We look forward to witnessing and supporting all at the academy this coming year as they play their part in further developing the Venture Way! With all good wishes.

*Lesley King*

Chair of the Local Governing Body,  
Ormiston Venture Academy.







# Active Travel Ambassadors

**This year, our Union of Venture Students (UVS) has participated in our very first Active Travel Ambassador (ATA) program.**

This consists of 5 sessions in our training room, a presentation and the all-important campaign to make change. Part of this was an opportunity to present to a panel of experts at a 'Campaign Junction Event'; pitching ideas for more environmentally friendly travel to and from our academy. This took place at the Norman Centre in Norwich and Venture was one of three local schools bidding for funding to put our ideas into action.

The travel experts listened to all three pitches, before deciding on funding of up to £200 for each school, with an extra £50 awarded to the academy with the best ideas. This event was to share ideas, increase the profile of the ATA program and for schools and Local Authorities to meet and network. The Active Travel Ambassador program's vision is for a society in which active and sustainable travel is the preferred mode of transportation, creating healthier spaces, healthier people and healthier communities. By committing to the program, the ATAs at Venture hope to establish genuine change, whilst having fun.

Venture's ATAs presented the following:

- Spot prize reward for those walking/cycling to school on a Wednesday
- Two Golden bike locks to be placed on two winning bikes each Wednesday for a special prize
- Ice-cream for the PL group on each college with the most Wednesday walkers/cyclists

Additionally, an extra £50 was asked for, for an initiative for staff; two prizes to encourage walking, wheeling and lift sharing in the summer term.

We are pleased to announce that the expert panel really enjoyed hearing about our ideas to cut congestion at the academy and awarded Venture the maximum £200, (plus £50 bonus) to make our ideas a reality. The campaign will take place across four weeks of the summer term.

Director of Personal Development, Spencer Doggett commented, "It is amazing to see our Union of Venture Students (UVS) working as a team and having the confidence to present in the way they did. The expert panel commented, "they are a credit to your academy." The campaign took co-ordination and planning, but the students were up for the challenge and I am proud of the entire team."

*In celebration of inclusivity and diversity for National Pride Month, the Venture 'Pride Club' organised a lunch time filled with fun activities: an LGBTQ+ 'Book Spotlight', crosswords and a bake sale for all students and staff to enjoy in the library - the library was a rainbow filled hive of activity!*

*Over the past month, the group of students had worked hard to plan events that would help to spread the message of kindness and respect, something already valued here at Venture; it was an opportunity to celebrate 'differences'. Students had a great time baking in preparation for the bake sale both and would like to take the opportunity to thank all of their fellow peers and the*

*Venture staff who supported the celebration of 'Pride Month' as well. Money raised from the bake sale has been donated to 'LGBTQ+ Project' who offer personalised and compassionate mental health and well-being support in Norfolk and Waveney, as well as visiting schools - including Venture - to run workshops for students.*





# Sundaes in the Sun

Despite the lack of sunshine, the summer term reward event at Venture, "Sundaes in the Sun," was a delightful success. Students eagerly lined up, braving the rain with smiles on their faces, to receive their well-deserved ice cream treats.

The event, designed to celebrate outstanding attendance and embodying the Venture Way every day, featured a variety of sauces and toppings for the students to choose from.

The most popular choices of the day were marshmallows and Oreo bites, adding an extra layer of sweetness to their sundaes.



The queues stretched out of the door and into the rain, but the students' enthusiasm remained undampened. Their joyful spirits and positive attitudes shone brightly, embodying the very principles that earned them this special reward.

"Sundaes in the Sun" was more than just an ice cream treat; it was a celebration of the students' dedication, resilience, and commitment to their education and the Venture community.

The event highlighted the importance of recognizing and rewarding positive behaviour and achievements, creating lasting memories and reinforcing the values that make Venture a special place to learn and grow.



**Funtastic Friday** – Students spent their points on Math's Kits ready for National Numeracy Day!

**Venture Vault** - Dairy Milk bar winners

**Summer term College Clash** – Decorate a Gingerbread in 3 minutes, Innovate college came out top receiving 100 points. (photos 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th place)



The Union of Venture Students voted to contribute to four local charities this academic year, dividing the donations from our two non-school uniform days into six beneficiaries, rather than just two.

Local charities were the focus, with East Coast Children's Hospice (EACH) and Leos for Ukraine each receiving £148 each on the first occasion, with Young Carers and the James Paget Hospital Charity receiving £137 after our second non-uniform day.

Maxine Taylor from the James Paget was delighted with the fundraising and came into Venture to accept the donation in person.





# Venture Joins City of Norwich School for a Memorable Duke of Edinburgh Expedition



insights into their emotional journey, revealing a dynamic range of moods yet underscored by unwavering resilience and determination.

**In an inspiring demonstration of resilience and teamwork, students from Ormiston Venture Academy recently collaborated with City of Norwich School (CNS) on a challenging Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) Bronze Award qualifying expedition.**



This event marked a significant milestone, particularly for Ormiston Venture Academy, as their students successfully completed the expedition despite facing severe weather conditions.

The expedition, held in the picturesque countryside of Baconsthorpe, North Norfolk, closely mirrored the practice training expedition. However, this time, the five-student team from Ormiston Venture Academy felt more confident and independent, ready to apply the skills they had honed during their practice runs. Their expedition assessor, Miss Lowe, supervised them remotely from the campsite using GPS trackers equipped with an SOS feature for safety. She met the group twice each day to ensure their well-being and progress.

Armed with maps and compasses, the students adeptly navigated their designated route. Friday's journey was marked by persistent rain, while Saturday presented the additional challenge of a thunderstorm. Despite the harsh conditions, the team was well-prepared with waterproof gear, demonstrating their readiness and commitment. Notably, this was the first time students from Ormiston Venture Academy had completed their Bronze Award amidst such extreme weather, adding to the sense of achievement.

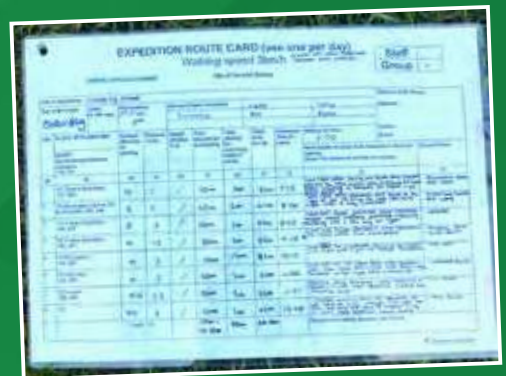
A unique aspect of their expedition was the team's goal to monitor and record their moods throughout the journey. Using a digital camera provided by Ms. Tye from the photography department, the students documented their feelings on a scale of one to ten by holding up fingers. This creative approach provided fascinating

The physical exertion of the expedition was notable, with the students clocking in a total of 35,637 steps on Friday and 28,284 steps on Saturday. These figures are a testament to their endurance and physical capability.

Miss Lowe, the DofE Manager, expressed her immense pride in the students, stating, "I am always proud of every student that participates in their DofE journey, and I could not think of anything more rewarding than to support these students in achieving the Bronze DofE Award. The students that have successfully completed the expedition should be so proud of themselves as they faced uncontrollable weather conditions of all four seasons and showed nothing but determination and resilience throughout!"

Echoing her sentiments, Mr. Webb, DofE Assistant Manager, praised the students for their exceptional teamwork and resilience.

"Well done to all students who participated in the DofE weekend!!"







All students showed amazing teamwork and resilience in the toughest weather conditions ever faced by students from Venture whilst at DofE! Everyone was a credit to both themselves and the school, and should be very pleased with what they achieved!"

Ms. A. Tomczak, also a DofE Assistant Manager, commended the students for their independence and problem-solving skills.

"Students who participated in the DofE weekend were amazing. They worked well as a team, showed resilience, and worked together through any problems. They were very independent. They set up tents, cooked dinner and breakfast, and planned their journey around the countryside on their own."

The year 10 students who attended the expedition were Daisy, Uche, Dylan, Ashnetha, and Kirstin. The dedicated staff members supporting them were Mr. Webb, Miss Tomczak, and Miss Lowe.

This expedition stands as a testament to the students' determination and ability to overcome challenges, embodying the true spirit of the Duke of Edinburgh Award. Congratulations to all the participants on this remarkable achievement!



## The Summer fete 2024 at Ormiston Venture Academy proved a huge success with glorious prizes from the raffle presented to beaming winners.

Ice creams, lollies and burgers kept hunger at bay as every PL group ran stalls feeding and keeping students entertained. The keepy uppy competition and the throwing wet sponges at teacher stalls drew crowds out onto the playground in the glorious weather, although the tombola, face painting and temporary tattoos proved most popular!

The Band kept the crowd entertained whilst singers and other musicians added their talents to the fantastic event. Raffle prizes included a Nintendo Switch (kindly donated by CEX of Great Yarmouth) Norwich Castle tickets, a Pleasure Beach voucher, Bewilderwood, cleaning and Caister Hall vouchers and there was also toys and gifts from Ocean Bay amusements.

The Academy would like to take this opportunity to thank all members of our community for their support and look forward to next year.

Mr Doggett who leads the UVS commented: *"It was fantastic to see our students' generate so much interest and high quality games and stalls for the Summer Fete. It was a lovely celebration of such a fantastic year, showcasing the amazing spirit of our Academy."*





# Friday Talks at Venture

In 2023-24 we have continued our series of 'Friday Talks' at Venture.

Via our Union of Venture Students, students are given the opportunity to request a talk or a presentation they would like. These usually fit into one of three categories;

- A career they might be interested in
- A hobby they have a passion for
- An area of general interest

In the summer term, we have heard from a Fire Fighter, a volunteer from the RNLI, a paralegal, Norfolk Pride and a former student who offered talk about new T-Levels at college.

We have had anywhere between 15 and 73 students show up for these Q & A sessions, with an average of around 20 students each week.

Director of Personal Development Spencer Doggett commented,

*"We have had several successful talks again this term. We advertise them all week and students often ask me what the talk is going to be on any given Friday. We already have a prison officer, a mental health nurse and an expert in atomic energy booked in from September."*



## Combined Cadet Force

As part of the Combined Cadet Force (CCF), Year 8 and 9 students from Venture attended a training session at the local Fritton Woods.

They participated in bivouac (shelter) building, hiking, map reading, compass reading, fieldwork and developed key employability skills such as communication, showing initiative and teamwork.



## VE DAY

Ormiston Venture Academy took part in Victory in Europe (VE) Day commemorations on May 8th at St. George's Park, Great Yarmouth.

Invited by the Royal British Legion (RBL), 6 members of the UVS represented the academy and laid a wreath as a mark of respect.

The event was attended by members of the RBL, the Mayor and the Deputy Mayor, all three armed forces, local politicians, the police, local army cadets and community leaders. Pictured are Maddox, Megan, Daisy, Poppy, Dylan and Ashnetha.



# Who Shot JFK?

Year 9 students collected a range of forensic and historical evidence to unpick the events of November 22nd, 1963, when John F Kennedy was assassinated while riding in a presidential motorcade through Dealey Plaza in Dallas, Texas.

They explored ballistics, physical evidence, gunshot residue, photographic analysis, fingerprints and autopsy reports.

They looked at the timings of the crucial events of day and investigated the possible motivations of some of the main groups that have been suspected of links to the crime. They used analytical and critical thinking skills to question parts of the Warren Commission Report and try to reach their own conclusions.

Students really enjoyed the day and came up with some interesting ideas for who they thought might be responsible.



## Africa Alive

Year 8 STEMM Club students planned a day trip to Africa Alive for a group of year 7 students to look at the classification of different groups of endangered species and the contribution of zoos to their conservation and protection.

As a part of their STEMM Award portfolio they produced a variety of short written tasks and supported small groups of students as they made their way around the zoo investigating the different animals.

At lunch time the whole group were treated to a short lecture on conservation from 'Professor' Jaime.

They listened with incredibly close attention as Jaime described the role of Africa Alive in the conservation of endangered species and explained some of the things that they could do as individuals to conserve their own environment and how that could contribute to the preservation of biodiversity on the planet.

## Diary Dates

### September 2024

Thursday 26th September – Year 6 Open Evening – 5pm – 7pm

### October 2024

Thursday 24th October – Academic Review Day + Careers Fair 3.10pm – 7.30pm

Friday 25th October – Students break for half term 2.55pm

Monday 28th October – Friday 1st November Half term

### November 2024

Monday 4th November 8.25am – Students return to the academy

## What's coming up at Venture Academy...

### December 2024

Wednesday 4th December – SEND parental drop in

Thursday 12th December – Year 11 Parents Evening 3.10pm – 7.30pm

Monday 16th December – A Merry Little Christmas Party 3.30pm – 5pm

Wednesday 18th December – Christmas Jumper and Christmas Dinner day

Friday 20th December – Christmas Fayre

Friday 20th December – Students break for Christmas at 12.15pm

Monday 23rd December – Friday 3rd January 2025 – Christmas break

### January 2024

Tuesday 7th January – 8.25am – Students return to the academy



# Our Annual Key Stage 3 Theatre Trip

Our annual Key Stage 3 Theatre Trip has been a beloved tradition for twelve years, and each year it grows in popularity among our students. This trip offers a fantastic opportunity for students to experience the magic of a West End show and witness live theatre at its finest.

This year, we departed the Academy at 7:30 am with 78 excited Year 7 and Year 8 students. The musical chosen for this year's trip was the enchanting "Wicked." The story of "Wicked" unfolds the untold tales of the characters before "The Wizard of Oz" and explores the unlikely but profound friendship between two young women: the blonde, popular Glinda and the misunderstood green girl, Elphaba. Their extraordinary adventures in Oz ultimately see them fulfilling their destinies as Glinda the Good and the Wicked Witch of the West.

The sun was shining as we started our day in Primrose Hill Park. Some students 'defied gravity' by climbing to the top of the hill, enjoying the striking view of the London skyline, while others preferred to relax in the shade of the trees, eating their lunch before heading to the theatre.

We all enjoyed ice cream during the interval after watching the incredible first act. Refreshed and eager, we settled down to see the second act, which ended with a standing ovation for the outstanding cast.

To cap off our delightful day, our lovely coach drivers took us on a scenic route out of London, allowing the students to see some of the city's iconic landmarks, including the London Eye, The Houses of Parliament, Big Ben, and the Tower of London.

A huge thank you goes out to all the staff who accompanied us on the trip and to all the students for being so brilliant! We look forward to continuing this wonderful tradition for many years to come



## OAT East Schools Collaborative Exhibition at The Crypt Gallery

*A special collaborative exhibition featuring the artistic talents of students' was from several OAT East Schools.*

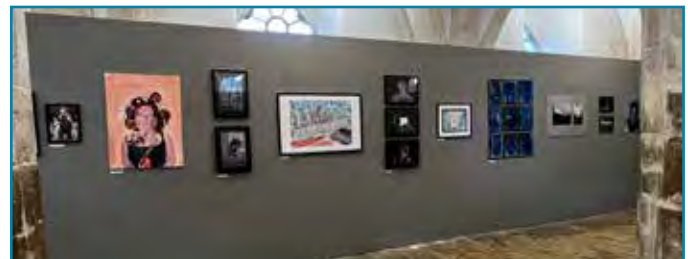
This exciting event took place at the prestigious Crypt Gallery, located within the grounds of Norwich Cathedral and owned by The Norwich School.

The exhibition kicked off with a private viewing on Tuesday, July 9th, and were from 6:30 to 8:00pm. This exclusive event was open to all children, families, and staff, providing an opportunity to appreciate the incredible artwork in a more intimate setting.

Following the private view, the exhibition was open to the public on July 10th to 12th. To ensure the security and integrity of the displayed works, the exhibition was invigilated, and visitors are kindly asked to refrain from taking photographs.

In addition to the physical display, any artwork not selected for the main exhibition were featured in a digital rolling display within the gallery space, ensuring every student's creativity was celebrated. Certificates were awarded to students whose work was shortlisted, recognizing their exceptional contributions.

We encouraged everyone to visit and support the young artists, whose hard work and dedication are reflected in this outstanding collection of art. It was amazing to see so many people join us in celebrating their creativity and the collaborative spirit of our school community.





# Colour Run 2024



**All staff and students at Venture were invited to take part in our second charity Colour Run to raise funds for two charities as voted for by the students at the academy.**

Following the Venture Games on Friday 5th July, staff and students got ready to participate on the fun run in either their PE kit or some old clothes.

They completed laps of the field either running, jogging or walking. On the course were four stations where staff and members of the Union of Venture Students were on hand to douse all participants in a variety of coloured powder paint, but also with water bombs, water pistols and even swathes of bubbles.

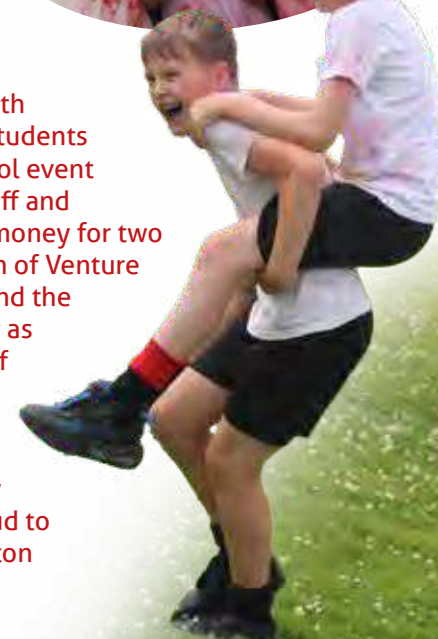
It was great to see all participants covered head to toe in paint, with lots of bright white smiles shining through the multi coloured stained faces. It was a terrific spectacle, seeing the plumes of powder in the air as staff and students ran through each checkpoint.

On the first day we had raised over £1200, and donations are still coming in. Thank you so much for all your kind and generous donations.

This was Venture's second colour run event, following the first in aid of Ukraine. Since that first event, it has often been a topic of conversation among the students, who ask, "when can we do it again?" Spencer Doggett, Director of Personal Development said, "It was so much fun, and great to see everyone enjoying themselves.

I believe events like this embody the 'Venture Way' and clearly all students enjoyed taking part. I am blown away at the sponsorship that was brought in on day one." This will be split equally between the James Paget University Hospital charity and Cancer Research UK.

Furthermore, "It was a fantastic opportunity to work with the Union of Venture Students to put on a whole school event that appealed to all staff and students, and to raise money for two charities that the Union of Venture Students nominated, and the student body voted for as one of our Questions of The Week. The event fostered a lovely atmosphere. And it's days like today that make me feel proud to be a member of Ormiston Venture Academy."





# PROM NIGHT '24

## A Fabulous Send Off for a Fantastic Year Group

Thursday, 27th June marked an unforgettable evening as Ormiston Venture Academy hosted its highly anticipated prom at the exquisite Park Hill Hotel.

With over 125 students in attendance, the event was a grand celebration of friendship, achievements, and the end of an incredible journey.

The evening was filled with excitement and glamour as students arrived dressed to impress in their finest attire. The Prom King and Queen contest added an extra layer of anticipation. The winners Taylor and Pearl were greeted with cheers and applause, recognising their contributions to Venture and the spirit they exemplify. Best dressed, voted for by the students went to James and Anna.

The night kicked off with an incredible atmosphere, as the venue was beautifully adorned with the hard work and dedication of the Raising Achievement Team and Mrs Bridges. Their tireless efforts in setting up and decorating the event ensured that every detail was perfect, creating a memorable evening for everyone in attendance.

The sound of music filled the air, inviting students to hit the dance floor and showcase their best moves. The DJ spun an eclectic mix of popular tunes, selected by the students in their leavers survey, ensuring there was something for everyone's taste.

The energy and enthusiasm on the dance floor were contagious, as students let loose and created memories that will be cherished for years to come, with Mr Brightside by the Killers being the most requested song of the evening.

One of the highlights of the night was the presence of a sweetie bar, offering a delightful assortment of sweets and treats. The sweetie bar added a touch of indulgence to the evening. If that wasn't enough of a sugar boost after the BBQ dinner, then cakes and brownies from Ellese Bakes.







None of this would have been possible without the support and contributions from various individuals and organizations. A heartfelt thank you goes to Park Hill Hotel for providing an exquisite venue and ensuring that every detail was taken care of. The venue's elegance and sophistication set the stage for an extraordinary evening.

Last but not least, a special thank you goes to the dedicated parents who supported their children throughout their academic journey and made this event possible. Their unwavering encouragement and involvement have played a vital role in shaping the lives of these remarkable young individuals.

As the evening drew to a close, it was clear that the prom had provided an opportunity for students to create lasting memories, forge deeper connections, and bid farewell to their high school years in style.

The event was a testament to the hard work and dedication of the organizing team, the support of the school community, and the indomitable spirit of the graduating class of 2024.



Dave Richards, Vice Principal commented

*"Ormiston Venture Academy's prom at Park Hill Hotel will undoubtedly remain a cherished memory of a brilliant year group that we have enjoyed working with so much this year. Their attitude on the night was a testament to the way they have acted all year and we are excited to see what incredible achievements and bright futures are in store the class of 2024."*





*Ormiston Venture Academy are thrilled to announce the exceptional achievements of our Year 11 students, who have demonstrated incredible resilience and determination to achieve impressive GCSE results.*

Our students throughout the year have demonstrated the character that is reflected in their achievements. Not only have they focused on their academic achievements, they have wider impact in the academy to lead on fund raising, peer mentoring, our student union and much more. Every step of the way they have been leaders and role models within our academy and beyond in the wider community.

**We are proud of the result of all of our students and some particular standout successes among them include:**

- Anneka has shown incredible resilience and determination to secure an outstanding set of GCSE results. Annie leaves Venture with nine grades at 7 or above including a 9 in History and Science. Annie has experienced significant personal setbacks, but throughout her time at Venture has shown herself to be kind, compassionate and determined to succeed and has thrown herself into her studies, extracurricular activities and philanthropic endeavours. Her attitude and incredible achievements gained her the Ormiston Academies Trust inspirational learner award for 2024 and she will go onto study at Norwich School on a 100% Bursary she has secured.
- Louis leaves a lasting legacy at Venture, as Head Boy Louis made a huge difference as an inspirational student leader throughout his 5 years at the academy where he helped lead significant projects on behalf of the student body. He was recognised for his significant contribution by Ormiston Academies Trust where he was awarded the position of Vice Chair of the regional student voice organisation. His exceptional organisational skills allowed him to commit to important roles like this whilst excelling in his studies and leaves Venture to go on to East Norfolk 6th Form with all of his grades at 7 or above including six grade 9's.
- Emiliya has already had an incredible senior year by securing the Ormiston Academy Trust scholarship to Oundle School after a rigorous and competitive application process that will see her study Politics, History, Maths and Economics and Government on a fully funded boarding scholarship in September. Her subject choices hint at her commitment to help others and her ongoing interest in politics, which has been evident

in her role as a student leader throughout her time at Venture. Her confidence in public speaking and incredible passion helped her to become the secretary of the Ormiston Academies Trust national student voice organisation in addition to Head Girl at Venture. She has always shown an inspirational work ethic and achieved eight grade 9's or equivalent and a grade 8 will no doubt continue to go onto achieve incredible things at Oundle.

- Alfie is a young man who should be incredibly proud of himself and the progress he has made in his time at Venture. From a tough starting point in Year 7, Alfie has grown into a wonderfully kind, articulate and hard-working young man. He has worked tirelessly to improve his grades and to get himself into a position to sit the higher tier papers in Science and Maths which he successfully did achieving a grade 7/6 in Combined Science and grade 5 in Maths, alongside a brilliant set of other results in English, History, Geography and Computer Science. In addition to achieving a brilliant set of results, he has taken himself out of his comfort zone in the past year and has achieved some brilliant personal goals including putting himself forward for scholarship opportunities in his final year. He didn't quite get that opportunity, missing out at the final hurdle, but the humble way in which he handled that and the support he offered his peers was a testament to the young man he is becoming.





Principal Simon Gilbert-Barnham expressed his pride and admiration for the students, stating:

*"I could not be prouder, looking back at the determination and effort that they have put into their time at Venture. They have all succeeded in so many ways... from these fantastic results to the amazing young people they have grown into. Well done goes to all and a thank you to our staff, parents, and community in working together for such incredible outcomes."*



The journey to these impressive outcomes has been a collective effort. Staff have gone above and beyond to provide innovative and engaging learning whilst offering care and support at every step. Families have been unwavering in their support, valuing and encouraging the hard work put in by their children. The wider academy community has also played a pivotal role, working together to help our students succeed.

As our Year 11 students prepare to embark on the next phase of their educational journeys, whether that be continuing onto sixth form, pursuing wider training, or entering the workforce, we are confident that they have the skills, knowledge, and resilience to thrive. Their success is not only a reflection of their academic abilities but also of their character and determination.

***Congratulations to the Class of 2024 on their outstanding GCSE results. Your hard work and perseverance have paid off, and we look forward to seeing all that you will accomplish in the future.***



### Year 9 Students Embark on an Exciting Adventure at Hautbois Activity Centre

Year 9 students recently had the thrilling opportunity to visit Hautbois Activity Centre, where they participated in a series of outdoor adventure activities that tested their courage, teamwork, and willingness to step out of their comfort zones. The trip was not only a chance to have fun but also an excellent opportunity for personal growth and building resilience.



The students were engaged in a variety of challenges, with kayaking and wall climbing being the highlights of the day. On the water, students displayed remarkable bravery, whether they were paddling confidently in their kayaks or plunging into the river during playful games and challenges. Many students faced the challenge of staying balanced in their kayaks, often leading to a refreshing dip in the water. However, their determination to keep trying and their ability to laugh off the occasional spill showcased their adventurous spirit.

Wall climbing, another popular activity, provided a different kind of challenge. For many, this was a test of their fear of heights. Yet, with the support and encouragement of their peers, students showed tremendous courage as they scaled the walls. It was inspiring to see them push past their fears, reaching new heights—literally and figuratively.

Throughout the trip, the students demonstrated excellent behaviour, working together as a team and supporting one another. The sense of camaraderie was palpable, as students cheered each other on and celebrated their successes together.

Overall, the day at Hautbois Activity Centre was a memorable experience for Year 9 students. It allowed them to try new things, challenge themselves, and grow both individually and as a group. The trip was a great success, leaving everyone with lasting memories and a newfound sense of achievement.



# Summer School

## Venture Stylee!

*This year we saw 130 of our new year 7 cohort join us for our amazing summer school! With the assistance of some truly exceptional staff members, we kept the students occupied throughout the entire week.*



Teambuilding was the focus this year at Summer School, we saw our students work together and begin to build those friendships that will see them through their next five years at Venture.

We saw the students reach for the sky in Trampolineing, baked some scrumptious goodies in the kitchen, they took a walk down Diagon Alley in creative writing, we travelled back in time in History.

Students participated in mixed sports and engaged in physical activities, they got creative in crafts and enjoyed playing games in the game room. Venture also hosted our first mini Venture Games where Innovate claimed the college victory!!







Parents were invited to the academy for our Celebration Assembly, where we celebrated the week's successes with our students and honoured those who have exemplified the Venture Way by earning their first Venture Virtue.

*We concluded the week with a visit to Pleasurewood Hills, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all the students. Summer School has been another massive success and we can't wait to do it all again next year.*

# Baraza Summer 2, 2024



**Just before the summer break, Venture's Union of Venture Students (UVS) held its final Baraza of the academic year.**

The Baraza, named after an East African tradition, where villagers would hold a regular public meeting asking for change, has been responsible for genuine shifts from the students in our academy community. Director of Personal Development and lead staff member of the UVS Spencer Doggett commented, "It's Venture's democratic, offering opportunities for student leaders across the academy to voice their ideas and even vote upon suggestions other members make; just like a national parliament does." 138 students were in attendance; our largest gathering of the UVS to date.

The July event offered the opportunity to congratulate the UVS for their work this year and this included reminding them of the collectives being held this week by the Executive Board. The changes to the café menu, the fundraising, the international food celebrations we have introduced and the work the new prefects have done was all celebrated.

The order of business was as follows;

The progress made since the last Baraza, including the local charities students voted to support for the Colour Run. A total of £2040 was raised, to be divided between the James Paget Hospital and Cancer Research UK.

Future food days they want to celebrate. The top voted days were 'Bacon Butty Day', 'Chocolate Day' and 'Quesadilla Day'; all in September 2024.

Ellisa brought to the attention of the Baraza her idea for a Model United Nations. This was briefly discussed and described, before 41 students declared their interest in being involved in this project.

Students were reminded about the Active Transport Ambassadors initiative, where UVS members have received a £5000 grant to make travelling to the academy more sustainable and eco-friendly. Our original idea for an electric car to build and race was declined by the company who are sponsoring the initiative; so a range of other initiatives were discussed.

**Finally, College Clash events were discussed and voted upon, with the top six ideas put forward to be placed on the calendar for 2024-25.**

Top voted for clashes were mostly food-based competitions! These are listed below in order of the popular vote.

1. Venture Bake Off
2. Pizza eating competition
3. Donut eating
4. Lemon eating
5. Chubby Bunny (Marshmallow eating)
6. Just Dance (in the Games Room)





Venture *Star*  
Awards

## Glamour and Talent Shine at Venture's Stars Awards

Glamour, excitement, and an abundance of talent filled the air at Venture on Thursday, 11th July, as the school held its prestigious Venture Stars Awards.

This red carpet event celebrated the outstanding achievements of over 60 students who were awarded the highest honour, the Venture Star, for their excellence in a specific curriculum or extracurricular area during the academic year.

The selection process for these coveted awards was rigorous, with only one student nominated from each year group across 16 different categories. The nominees stood out among their peers, showcasing exceptional work ethic, commitment, positive attitude, and academic accomplishments. They were truly the shining stars of the academy.

Adding even more prestige to the occasion, one student from each category received a special commendation award, offering them additional recognition for their exceptional performance. The atmosphere was electric as the nominees eagerly awaited the announcement of these commendations, with their friends, families, and the entire school community cheering them on.

However, the highlight of the evening was the presentation of the OAT Outstanding Achievement Award, bestowed upon a single student who had received the most nominations and demonstrated remarkable accomplishments across multiple categories. The 2024 Outstanding Achievement Award winner was none other than Maci, a remarkable Year 9 student who had left an indelible mark on the school. With a beaming smile and a glimmer of pride in her eyes, Maci graciously accepted her award from the academy's principal, Mr. Gilbert-Barnham.



The Venture Stars Awards were not only a celebration of the students' achievements but also an opportunity to acknowledge the support of the local community. Several awards were sponsored by esteemed local companies and organizations, including EE Green, the Pavilion Theatre, LG Perfect, Gorleston Football Club, Hooma Comedy, NCFC Community Sports Foundation, Norfolk County Council Library Service, Crazy Hippo Crochet, Norfolk Hire, Jet Distribution, Elite Detailing and Folkes Plant & Aggregates. Several of the sponsors, recognizing the importance of nurturing young talent, attended the event and personally presented the four Venture Stars and special commendation awards in the categories they sponsored. Their presence added a touch of elegance to the evening and demonstrated the strong bond between the academy and the local community.

One notable guest at the event was the Chair of Governors of Ormiston Venture Academy, Lesley King. In her inspiring keynote speech, Lesley shared stories and lessons learned from her own journey to success, motivating the Venture Stars to exhibit resilience and perseverance in their pursuit of greatness. Lesley grew up in Great Yarmouth before becoming a successful principal of one of the largest schools in the country and a government advisor on education. She shared four key lessons which resonated with all those in attendance, especially the importance of being proud of your roots, regardless of whether your journey to success keeps you in the local area or not, and to never feel that you aren't good enough for the position you have been successful in gaining in life.

Dave Richards, the Vice Principal of Ormiston Venture Academy, expressed his gratitude to the sponsors and presenters for contributing to the incredible atmosphere that permeated the event.

He also extended his heartfelt thanks to Lesley King, who he introduced as an inspiration for himself at the ceremony, for her empowering words of wisdom to the award winners.



Thank you to all of the local companies for their support for the Venture Stars 2024 event.



Mr. Richards acknowledged the exceptional qualities possessed by each Venture Star, emphasizing that these young individuals exemplify the Venture Way and make the academy community immensely proud.

As the curtain fell on this unforgettable evening, it was evident that the Venture Stars Awards had not only recognized the remarkable accomplishments of the students but had also showcased the unwavering support and dedication of the academy, its staff, and the local community. The stage was set for the next generation of leaders, innovators, and achievers to continue shining bright, inspiring others, and leaving their mark on the world.

### Special Commendations went to:

**First Class Computer Science:**  
Tamish  
**Ultimate Sports Personality of the Year:** Kelsey  
**Innovative Scientist of the Year:** Jaime  
**English Laureate:** Jack  
**Outstanding Historian:** Adelaide

**Outstanding Geographer:** Dylan  
**Masterchef:** Florence  
**Master Mathematician:** Aradhya  
**Outstanding Linguist:-** Maidee-Rose

**Outstanding Performance:** Kirstin  
**Venture Craftsperson:** Eowyn  
**Outstanding Visual:** Sienna  
**Extended Learning:** Max

**Venture Philanthropist:** Jaime  
**Venture Spirit:** Rose  
**Achievement Beyond School:** Dawson  
**OAT Outstanding Achievement:** Maci





# Create SHOW '24



***The Create show is an exhibition of the high-quality work and talents of students in Create over the academic year.***

Stunning art and photography masterpieces adorned the corridors and teaching rooms leaving visitors to the exhibition amazed at the skills and obvious commitment that had been displayed.

Soloists pitched perfect to the parents, staff and students as they enjoyed wonderful canapés served by students.

The quality of the Textiles pieces amazed the visitors as they perused the Create corridor. It was wonderful to see so many Venture alumni students returning to see the work as well.

The band really shook things up in the corridor with the music room buzzing with lots of music and skill on display. The dancers wowed their audiences, and presented some bright colours too.



Anna Mallory, Head of the Create Faculty commented that:

***"The quality of the work in all areas blows me away, and this year the students (and staff) have done themselves proud!"***





# Medical Virtual Learning Competition

The competition was a collaboration between Blended Learning UK and The James Paget University Hospital. They were competing against 10 teams from other local schools and academies in the area. The students had to present their concept to a lecture theatre of doctors, teachers and other students.

Team 'CPR Saviours' which was made up of Taylor, Savannah, Chinomso and Sintija won the Silver Award for their innovative design of a competitive music/chemistry kit to teach students to be confident with using compressions of the right depth and rhythm. They won £150 for the Academy and a Certificate of Excellence.

Debbie Smith, Head of Science commented: 'It was a great day, the students worked brilliantly as a team in coming up with a really innovative plan.'



Two teams of year 9 Venture students took part in a competition at East Norfolk Sixth Form College to design an educational program to teach CPR technique to school-aged children.



Mr McNally, Assistant Principal of the Create College, was keen to highlight and praise the hard work of all of the teachers and support staff in Create especially Mr Stevenson and Mrs Roper-Cornwell, without which the success of the evening would not have happened!





# Achieve **Kirstin – Year 11**

## **Kirstin remembers playing the piano for the first time at age five.**

Moving through her grades quickly, she then began to master other instruments including acoustic guitar and flute. Kirstin has played at numerous academy events, including Year 6 transition evening and our very own Venture Stars Awards evening. They don't actually have a favourite genre of music as Kirstin listens to everything from pop to classical. "With family from the Philippines, I enjoy artists from there, as well as from the UK and America. It depends on what mood I'm in and which language I want to relax to."

Kirstin enjoys every subject at the academy, with the slight favourites being music, maths and statistics. "I find it fun, because I like problem solving. There are definite answers, unlike in other subjects."

Kirstin is also a star member of the Union of Venture Students (UVS). They have a clear passion for helping others, with Kirstin particularly adept at working with the MFL team to be a Learning Guru on Tuesday mornings in the library. "I find it fun to teach others, without it actually being a full lesson."

### **Principal AWARD – Mollie Year 9**

An amazing student with particular talent for History, Maths, Computer Science and Science. Very enthusiastic and a great class member. She does singing lessons outside of school and maybe a future star!!



# Create

## **Daisy – Year 10**

### **Daisy has been singing and acting at the Dusmagrik theatre school in Gorleston since she was 5.**

She has recently auditioned for and was successful in obtaining the lead role as Anna in the musical Frozen. She is a member of 'Triple T' productions company, which produce pantos and Daisy has performed in both Sleeping Beauty and Treasure Island!!

Daisy has been a keen voice in class discussions, tried her hardest in lessons and stood up for what is right in and out of lessons. She has represented the Academy at athletics over the past 3 years and was in Annie the musical at the Academy as well. She also makes and sells her own Jewellery outside of the Academy as well as having a stall at the Christmas and Summer fairs. She has now also branched out into selling her own flavour of popcorn at markets and fairs. Daisy has a truly bright future and one we will look forwards to following.

### **Principal AWARD – Wesley Year 8**

Wesley has improved so much in his sporting prowess this year at Venture. A talented athlete at the start of year 7, Wesley has continued to develop his skills representing the Academy at football (where he also played a year up towards the end of the season) X-Country and athletics. Outside of the Academy Wesley has played for football teams on both Saturdays and Sundays which has culminated in him trying out and gaining a place in the prestigious Lowestoft Town Football Club Academy for the 2024-25 season. We wish him all the best for the future and know that with his attitude and thirst for improvement he can continue to go from strength to strength.





# Innovate Logan – Year 8

**Logan was nominated for two of the Venture stars awards in his first year at the academy.**

Logan is a perfectionist in French and loves to read aloud and practise his pronunciation. He always volunteers to give answers and attempts explaining complex new concepts. Logan is also incredibly enthusiastic about Science and works to the best of his ability at all times. He has been a really positive influence on the students in his class and has been a joy to teach.

Logan has also excelled in Rugby achieving the Venture Sports award for outstanding performance, as well as representing Venture in the basketball team. Outside of school Logan plays football for Bohemians and boxing at the K9 gym.

Logan is an all-round superstar and more importantly an incredible, positive young man.

## Principal AWARD – Alfie Year 8

This student has excelled in their first year being a part of the Venture community. They have excelled in PE, English and Computer Science. They attend numerous extra-curricular clubs. The most amazing character trait about this young person is how resilient they are through extreme adversity and always have a huge smile on their face.



# Aspire Harry – Year 9

**Harry plays for Norwich City FC U16's elite pan disability squad, after trialling for the squad in 2023.**

Harry trains on Tuesdays at the Nest and has played in tournaments against Brighton, Chelsea, Fulham, Brentford and other elite squads across the country. In his last tournament the team came second when they played in Brentford, after losing to Brighton in the final. Harry has also had Jack Stacey, of NCFC first team, go and watch him train for the elite squad.

## Principal AWARD – Mia Year 8

Mia is the realisation of the Venture Way. Determined to be the best that she can, Mia pushes herself in each lesson as well as all areas of her school life. Able to tackle any challenge put her way, she is adept at working independently and within a group. As a leader in group work, she has demonstrated an ability to pull others up to her level, both through her support for others and unyielding expectations. Friendly and trustworthy, Mia has taken on responsibilities around the academy as a prefect and in Personalised Learning as Aspire 7B's PL Captain.





## ***Achieve College can be recognised around the academy via the blue badges students wear.***

Led by Assistant Principal Mr Doggett and College Leader Mr Ives, Achieve has three major subjects areas; English, Humanities (History, Geography and RE) and Modern Foreign Languages.

Our vision at Venture is to provide World Class education to all and provide opportunities for our students to be subject specialists in all their subjects. Students study a broad curriculum that prepares pupils to be experts in all areas of study. In English, students have the opportunity to study Shakespeare, analyse poetry, write creatively and all students are also exposed to both modern and pre 1900s texts.

# Achieve

Trips to the theatre (to see the *Woman in Black* this year) and the Globe Theatre are popular annual events. The English team also leads the way with our annual World Book Day celebrations and runs key events such as the 'poetry slam' when all colleges compete against each other and the annual spellathon, run by students for local primary school students.

Our Modern Foreign Languages incorporate French and Spanish; both very popular choices for our linguists at GCSE level. Key topics include the theme of identity and culture, school, the local area, future plans and the international global dimension. Beyond the classroom, MFL offers inter-school debating competitions and you may spot students proudly adorning 'master linguist' badges, attained in either subject for excellence in examinations or extended learning. Trips to Disneyland Paris, Belgium and Madrid have been arranged enhance the reputation of this area of the academy.

Within the Humanities faculty, History students are taught about the development of Britain following the Battle of Hastings through to colonialism under the reign of Queen Victoria, while international topics are explored such as the American Revolution and apartheid in South Africa. In Geography, students learn about the eco-system and the impact climate change has on rivers and flooding as well as other hazards and the causes and consequences of population growth all over the planet. Local fieldwork on our coast, as well as trips to Poland and the First World War trenches are always well received. Finally, Religious Education has been a popular addition to the Humanities Faculty. Students learn about Christian practices, Hinduism, Judaism and Islam. Year 9 study a unit on morality and Year 10 learn about ethics. This is taught as part of a well-rounded Humanities offer CASH curriculum, but from 2023-24, RE will be taught as part of a well-rounded Humanities offer in Year 7-9.







*The Aspire College has had a year full of success across the board with all of our amazing students!*



In Computer Science we have covered a large range of Topics. Some topics include E-Safety, Hardware and Software, Digital Media, Data representation , Networking, Programming and Cyber Security. These follow both theory and practical lessons to ensure we offer an interactive and diverse Computer Science Curriculum.

This year we have had two Computer science trips, with nearly 200 students having a fantastic experience at The Cambridge Centre for



Computing History, looking at the diverse History within Computing and particularly looking at their display of "Influential Women in Computing History" and also Bletchley Park, which linked with our Cyber Security unit based on Code breaking and how to keep Data safe and secure. We run these trips every year to widen the students experiences, not just within Computer Science but also their own Cultural Capital.

The introduction of our new iMedia GCSE has meant that our students can develop their creative skills by planning, designing and creating media products such as websites, games apps and marketing materials. This is a highly popular course to encourage the link with Art, Graphic Design and Games design.

We look forward to another Academic year full of exciting and creative work in Computer Science.

# Aspire

Within Aspire, we have Maths and Computer Science. Seeing students challenged and supported in topics and allowing them to strive and succeed in our well-developed curriculum is part of the day-to-day routine.

Mathematics is awesome for so many reasons. Maths isn't just about numbers and equations; it's about patterns, creativity, and problem-solving. It develops problem-Solving Skills as well as critical thinking. It is used for real-world applications ranging from predicting the weather to designing buildings Maths is used in countless ways to make our world function smoothly.

At Ormiston Venture, the curriculum is designed to develop subject experts and the opportunity to study this maths post -16. We can also offer GCSE further maths and GCSE statistics for pupils who really enjoy challenging themselves and maximise their potential.

We invite speakers in to demonstrate how maths is being used in their professions and we have trips where pupils can experience themselves how this fascinating subject is used in real life situations.

The mathematics teachers are all looking forward to the next academic year which will be full of exciting experiences for all pupils.





## The Create College is made up of a team of highly dedicated and enthusiastic staff and students.

The Create subjects include Art, Catering, Music, Performing Arts, Photography and Textiles. Best practice and expertise is shared on a daily basis, within the faculty, but also outside of the Academy through Ormiston Academy Trust links and competitions.

The Create College is the one of the most enjoyable places to be for staff and students. It operates a broad and balanced curriculum for students in Key Stage 3, with students studying visual arts, performance and technology based subjects in more depth.

Key Stage 4 offers GCSE and BTEC qualifications and is hugely popular. An incredible amount of students go on to study at least 1 Create subject from year 10, and many leave with aspirations of further study in this area after achieving some exceptionally high results.

# Create

## A Showcase of Outstanding

Students go on to study these subjects in more depth in Colleges and Sixth Forms. Apprenticeships in engineering and scholarships at Gresham's are also available. We have had success with Callum then going on to study Fine Art at Oxford University and Daisy dancing in Colchester College for example.

The extra-curricular opportunities within the Create College feature highly in the Academy's provision. Clubs and activities such as Musical or talent show rehearsals, choir and orchestra (Venture Vivace), photography skills and street dance amongst others, complement sessions based on improving qualification grades. Peri lessons enhance musical talent, and we are very grateful for the team of staff who come into the Academy for this.

Creative guilds such as film special FX make up, dress making, crochet, pom pom making, band skills, photography and textiles experimentation also contribute to the programme, and are often massively oversubscribed!!

Showcase events such as the bi-annual musical sell out audiences and the Create show is a representation of the fine work produced by students in Create. The show includes incredible Art and Photography exhibitions, phenomenal Craft and Textiles products, spine tingling musical entertainment, singing and performances.



The faculty ran a musical last year – Fame, which sold out for 3 consecutive nights, providing a stage for students to demonstrate their flair and commitment.

The College is prominent in the local community attending carol services, lantern parades and performing at the Hippodrome concert. The Performing Arts students also performed in the recent Ormiston Academies Trust annual talent showcase.

Guest artists, graphical designers, animators, photographers, chefs, singers and dancers have graced our College and many trips to exhibitions and the West End theatre companies have occurred, broadening horizons and showing students the fruits of what can be achieved in this area.

Mrs Vincent, College Leader commented on "how amazing the young people are in the best college in the Academy, and lots of that was down to the talented and devoted staff we have".



## Students in Science have had a fantastic opportunity to complete practical experiments and engage in the awe and wonder that is science knowledge.

Practical skills are so important, they create the love of learning that our students so often talk about. For example in Year 7 they were investigating how shape effects streamlining using wallpaper paste and plasticine models and year 8 have been investigating acids and alkalis. In year 9,10 and 11 students have been completing rotations of science subjects benefiting from subject specialist teaching, enhancing every opportunity in the science curriculum.

The Science Faculty has invested in a 3D printer and are now redesigning and 3D-printing equipment that allows students to work more safely and more efficiently in lessons. The picture shows a redesigned test tube rack that is more stable and allows observations to be made more easily, a bespoke stand for electrolysis equipment that reduces the risk of it tipping over in the middle of an investigation, a beaker lid that holds a thermometer upright in the centre of the beaker and a mini quadrat so that ecological sampling can take place whatever the weather. Many other improvements to commercially available equipment are in the design phase and a College Clash competition and enrichment clubs to design improved science equipment are offered on a weekly basis.

# Innovate

## P.E (Physical Education)

**The students at Ormiston Venture academy complete six sports across each year with fitness built in throughout each sport.**

The students complete these sports as it is a progression from primary school building on prior knowledge, it also links into the academy fixture cycle in the local area to give all students the opportunity to excel beyond the classroom creating links with local sports clubs.

In years 7 & 8 and 9, students focus on learning the fundamental key skills and knowledge in a variety of team and individual sports referenced in the national curriculum. In Year 10 & 11 students opt into three bespoke sport pathways. These are OCR Cambridge National Sport Studies qualification, Leadership award achieving the UK Sport Leaders Level 1 and Level 2 award, and Health and Fitness, achieving a gym instructors qualification on completion of the course.



The students complete the OCR Cambridge Nationals Sport Studies qualification because it develops their understanding of a range of sports which can lead to increased participation rates, enjoyment and wellbeing whilst with us and post 16.

Within this the students complete a compulsory exam unit, leadership unit which permeates through the curriculum from year 7. Leadership in sport is linked to our curriculum intent promoting the skills and qualities the students will need to become all rounded good citizens. As this is a priority to us at Venture focusing on ambition and the qualities students will need some students will be completing a sports leadership qualification route. Health and Fitness will be taught to raise students knowledge on how to eat healthily and how to train to improve their fitness for a variety of sports.

Orienteering was chosen for all students because it shows the diverse career pathways available to students, and continues to develop health and fitness in sports that would appeal and include all students. Practical sport is to nurture student talent for the venture elite programme, encouraging sporting participation post 16.

We have a wide variety of extra curricular clubs and teams for boys and girls such as football, rugby, netball and many more. We recently came second in the Wellesley Athletics tournament that all six local schools were involved in.



# THE FOREMAN CUP



In a momentous event, Ronnie, was honoured with The Foreman Cup, a prestigious accolade presented annually by the Great Yarmouth Branch of the National Federation of Retail Newsagents. This award celebrates local athletes who have demonstrated significant improvement and promise in their sporting endeavours.

Ronnie's exceptional performance on the track set him apart this year. His impressive timings of 11.79 seconds in the 100 meters and 24 seconds in the 200 meters showcased his speed and dedication to athletics. These achievements highlight his potential and commitment to continuous improvement. The 2024 presentation ceremony was graced by Carol Kemp, the granddaughter of Mr. Foreman, who established this

award to encourage young athletes in the community. Carol Kemp's presence added a touch of legacy and inspiration to the event, underscoring the importance of recognizing and nurturing young talent.

Venture, the academy where Ronnie hones his skills, expressed immense pride in his accomplishments. The academy sports team have always believed in Ronnie's potential, and this award is a testament to his hard work and their unwavering support.

Ronnie's journey is just beginning, and with such an accolade early in his career, the future looks bright for this young athlete. The Foreman Cup is not only a recognition of his current achievements but also a beacon guiding him toward greater heights in the world of athletics.

## District Athletics Competition



*120 enthusiastic Year 7 to 10 students from the Academy proudly represented Venture at the highly anticipated District Athletics Competition.*

The event, held at the local athletics stadium the Wellesley, featured a series of track and field events with participants from all local schools.

Throughout the day, our young athletes demonstrated their skills and determination in various events including sprints, relays, long jump, and shot put. Competing against the best athletes from neighboring schools, the Academy team delivered outstanding performances.

The Academy achieved an impressive 2nd place overall in the competition. The Years 9 and 10 teams were particularly notable, securing 2nd place in their respective year group categories. Standout performances were delivered by Holly and Ronnie, both of whom excelled in all their events.

Reflecting on the success of the day, Mr. McNally, the team's coach, remarked, "It was an amazing day with lots of medallists and personal bests achieved."

Holly shared her excitement and pride, saying, "I was so worried about competing, but then so proud of myself and all of the other athletes that represented the Academy—even though my legs kill now!"

Tegan also had a positive experience, stating, "The atmosphere was fantastic and we had a really enjoyable time. I was nervous at first but when I started running all the nerves disappeared and it was great."

Overall, the event was a resounding success, showcasing the talent and sportsmanship of the Academy's students and leaving everyone looking forward to next year's competition.





# Sports Awards Evening 2024

The PE department at Ormiston Venture Academy celebrated the efforts and achievements of the students in sport from the last year at a prestigious invite only event held at Burgh Hall.



Awards for Star Players in numerous different sports preceded the highly regarded awards for 'Future Olympian, Future Leader, Team of the Year, Outstanding Contribution and Venture Spirit Award'.

Over 100 students attended the event which also included a buffet and a classic disco to close proceedings, with Saule singing and Isla as DJ!!

**The main winners were:**

**Future Olympian – Ronnie**

**Future Leader – Saule**

**Team of the Year - Year 11 Netball team**

**Outstanding Contribution – Emiliya**

**Venture Spirit Award – Jess**

A display of the sports stars across the year from all different year groups looped over the big screen at the front as 18 sports trophies were presented as well as best dressed trophies (which went to Elisha and Nathan)

The PE department would like to extend a huge congratulations to all students nominated and especially to the winners of each award, and warmly encourage them to continue with their talents, passions, commitment and aspirations for the future in sport.

## Venture Games Sports Day: A Celebration of Sport & Community

This year's Venture Games Sports Day was a remarkable event, bringing together students and staff for a full day of athletic engagement. With 26 different sports sessions running simultaneously, every student had the chance to immerse themselves in their favourite activities. From football to trampoling, tennis to dodgeball, the diversity of sports offered ensured there was something for everyone.



As we looked out across the field, it was heartwarming to see the joy and excitement on the faces of our students. Each session was filled with enthusiasm and energy, creating an atmosphere that truly resembled the spirit of the

Olympic Games. This was made possible by the dedication and hard work of our staff, who not only organized and ran these sessions but also inspired our students to give their best.

The success of this event is a testament to our community's commitment to fostering a love for sport and physical activity. We hope that the memories and experiences from Venture Games Sports Day will encourage our students

to maintain a lifelong dedication to staying active and healthy.

A massive thank you goes out to all the staff involved in making this day a success. Your efforts have not only provided a day of fun and excitement but have also helped instil valuable lessons in teamwork, perseverance, and the joy of sport. Here's to many more of sporting excellence and inspiration!







# Year 10 Sports Leaders Trip

**14 of the year 10 Sports Leaders group attended the first ever Norfolk School Games: Careers Through Sports Leadership Event at The Space conference centre in Norwich.**

The day was a culmination of a leadership pathway – aiming to expose KS4 pupils to a variety of options post-secondary (employment, apprenticeships, further education, volunteering), and to help them utilise the skills they've gained in sports volunteering to gain different opportunities.

**The aims for the day were:**

- To develop employability through leadership
- Raising aspirations
- Building awareness of post-secondary opportunities for young people

There was a variety of external partners delivering informative and interactive sessions for students throughout the day.

**These are:**

**NCC pathways to work team:** introducing apprenticeships and giving an overview of the types. They will also introduce skills to support students to recognise the how they've developed in sports leadership and how to showcase them to employers.



**City College:** information on different types of opportunities post-secondary, and practical activities for students to explore their leadership skills.

**University of East Anglia:** workshop on utilising leadership skills and how to reflect them in applications to employers, further education settings and wider.

**Premier Education:** a fun, practical workshop for pupils to put their leadership skills into practice. Information on different types of early career opportunities.

**Mod/armed forces:** activities that get pupils to utilise their leadership skills beyond sport.

The event was sponsored by inspire+. They are a charity based in Lincolnshire that aims to change children and young people's lives through sport, pe and physical activity. They want all children and young people to be healthy, happy and active. During their session, students will learn about the range of careers that are available within the PE, sport and education sector.

Megan commented that the day was a really useful insight into how leadership can be transferred to careers and our future lives.





# SPORT LEADERS

## Tennis



### Venture Hosts a Day of Tennis Fun for Youngsters

In a celebration of sport and sunshine, Ormiston Venture Academy recently hosted a tennis day for young students from around the district. The event saw eager participation from Year 1 and 2 students, who were guided by the Academy's Year 10 Sports Leaders through a variety of tennis activities designed to introduce them to the sport.

The day kicked off with a series of tennis drills, where the younger students learned essential techniques such as forehand and backhand shots, proper racket handling, and specific movement patterns on the court. The Sports Leaders, under the guidance of Mr. McNally, demonstrated patience and skill as they coached the youngsters, ensuring that everyone grasped the basics of the game while having fun.

In the afternoon, the excitement continued as Year 3 and 4 students took to the courts for mini tennis games. These matches, structured in a tie-breaker style, allowed the students to put their newfound skills to the test in a friendly yet competitive environment.

The Sports Leaders not only taught the younger players but also officiated the games, fostering an atmosphere of teamwork and fair play.

Mr. McNally, who led the Sports Leaders, expressed his pride in their performance. He praised their ability to adapt to the varying group sizes and their enthusiasm in working with the younger students. The event was a resounding success, providing a memorable day of sport, skill development, and community spirit for all involved.



# SPORT LEADERS



The last Sports Leaders festival of the year was met with torrential rain - meaning the sports leaders had to think on their feet and transfer their plans indoors.

Herman Ormiston Academy brought over 36 year 4 students to participate in a cricket festival led by Venture's year 10s.

Anna and Brooke addressed the year 4s upon their arrival before the Sports Leaders sprang into action warming up their teams in small groups. Team captains were Aaliyah, Leo, Harvey, Skye, Elisha, Ace, Savannah, Lori-Ann, Recce, Joshua, Honey and Emily.

The students played as teams of 6 batting and fielding to win matches. Some excellent scoring came from some of the players and a couple of spectacular catches.

Megan and Ilyssa kept the overall scores whilst Ina produced some lovely certificates for the year 4s to keep. Sophie, Oli and TJ bowled, whilst Kacey and Alfie allowed Vinny to make an appearance.

It was a fantastic way to finish their sessions leading younger students and developing their communication, teamwork and leadership skills.

The year 4s were really happy and would love to do the event again, saying their favourite part was batting and spending time with their friends.



Stay Safe  
Team Venture!!!



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# Sports Camp



## Ormiston Venture's Year 10 students recently enjoyed an exhilarating weekend trip to Whittlingham Lake.

Blessed with fantastic weather, the students immersed themselves in a variety of activities that balanced fun and learning, ensuring a memorable experience for all.



From the moment they arrived, the students took full advantage of their free time, engaging in various sports that fostered teamwork and camaraderie. Evenings were particularly special, as everyone gathered around the campfire to play games and toast marshmallows, creating an atmosphere of warmth and friendship.



A highlight of the trip was the two 2-hour sessions of paddleboarding and kayaking. Despite the challenges of navigating the water, the students managed to stay reasonably dry and thoroughly enjoyed their time learning new skills and exploring the lake.

**Overall, the trip to Whittlingham Lake was a resounding success, offering great fun and lasting memories for all the Year 10 students of Venture.**

