

# Venture VOICE

Stay Safe

Ofsted  
Outstanding

Ormiston  
venture academy

Edition 44: Summer 2025

Ofsted  
Outstanding

the  
Principals Award  
Spotlight



SCAN ME



Union of  
Venture Students

Aspire  
Create  
Achieve  
Innovate

# Results

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School

## Summer Fete

Fun & Games for all at Venture

## Hautbois Centre Visit

Two action packed days with the PE Team

## Walking & Wheeling

Greenest way of getting to Venture

## Venture Star Awards

An evening Student celebration

## OAT Sports Cup

UEA Sports Park Action

## Athletics Games

Wellesley Athletics Stadium

**So much going on  
@ Venture Academy.**





# [ORMISTON] TEACHER TRAINING

**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 (NlOT), 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 NlOT, 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

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 2025

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



# A New Chapter Begins at Venture Academy

**As we begin a new academic year at Ormiston Venture Academy, I do so with immense pride in all that we've achieved — and with great excitement for what lies ahead.**

The past year marked a significant chapter in our journey. From the exceptional outcomes of our Senior Year, the regular achievements through extra-curricular activities to the daily dedication of students in every year group, our academy has continued to shine. Our Outstanding Ofsted judgement recognised what we see every day: superb behaviour, a deep sense of purpose, and students thriving both in and beyond the classroom.

But while we celebrate this success, we also look forward — because this is not the end of our story, but the beginning of an exciting new chapter.

We move forward with a shared vision: to offer a world class education rooted in aspiration, compassion and excellence

This year also brings a new energy as we welcome our new Year 7 students, already showing the focus and values that define our community. Their enthusiasm reminds us that every new start is a chance to grow, achieve and lead.

Thank you to our students, staff, families and wider community for making Venture a place we are all proud to be part of.

**Together, we look ahead with ambition — and a belief that the best is yet to come.**

Regards,  
Simon Gilbert-Barnham  
Principal





*On behalf of all the members of Venture's local governing body I am very happy to welcome everyone to the academy at the start of the new academic year, with a special welcome to those joining us for the first time.*

Before we look forward to the new academic year, we need to celebrate the excellent examination results gained by our graduating cohort of year 11 students.

As we predicted, their achievements were outstanding and a tribute to their hard work and commitment to their studies and to the wider life of the academy. We are so proud of them and wish them well as they move on to further challenges.

*They will always be Venture alumni!*

**Lesley King**

Chair of the Local Governing Body,  
Ormiston Venture Academy.



## Enrichment week

### The Bug Parc visit



In the Kirby Tropical House, students discovered how some insects, like scorpions, glow under UV light. Many were brave enough to hold an Amblypygid—a spider-like creature known for its long, delicate legs that can span up to 27 inches! In Hinton House, students came face-to-face with grasshoppers, katydids, crickets, praying mantises, cockroaches, assassin bugs, leeches, giant water bugs, snails, and crabs. A few daring students even ventured into the Spider Section, showing great courage and curiosity.

One of the most popular areas was the New Butterfly House, where students stepped into a tropical haven kept at a warm 25–30°C year-round. Surrounded by vibrant plants and over 400 butterflies from more than 30 species, the experience was magical. One student even became a butterfly favourite thanks to a particularly colourful hat!

The day also included an insect handling experience, giving both students and staff the opportunity to hold harmless creatures such as stick insects, millipedes, and cockroaches—an unforgettable chance to get up close and personal with nature.

After a morning of discovery, students had time to unwind and enjoy themselves. Laughter and fun filled the air as they raced around the go-kart track and bounced with energy on the giant inflatable pillow during their lunch break.

This trip not only deepened students' understanding of the natural world but also inspired creative thinking and bravery. We're incredibly proud of how engaged and enthusiastic our students were throughout the day, and we're excited to see how this experience influences their future work in Textile Design.



**Our Year 7 and 8 students recently took part in an exciting and educational visit to The Bug Parc in Lenwade—our first ever trip to this unique venue.**

The experience was designed to complement the "Nature's Life Cycle" themed project currently being explored by Year 8 in Textile Design, a project Year 7 students will undertake next academic year.

This creative project draws inspiration from the natural world, with a particular focus on insects. Students study the work of visionary designers and artists such as Alexander McQueen, Damien Hirst, and interior design icons Matthew Williamson and Timorous Beasties—all of whom have found beauty and meaning in the intricate details of nature and the insect kingdom.

The visit provided a hands-on and immersive way to explore the subject matter. Students encountered a wide variety of insect species and attended several fascinating talks. One highlight was a session about leaf-cutter ants, where students learned how the colony operates with astonishing cooperation and complexity.



## Enrichment week - Beach visit



**As part of Enrichment Week, the vast majority of Year 7 students enjoyed a fantastic day of sports at Gorleston Beach. The walk down to the beach served as a warm-up, with students demonstrating excellent behaviour throughout.**

Blessed with great weather, students took part in a variety of activities including football, handball, ultimate frisbee, rounders, and relay races. They were split into teams and competed in a rotating schedule of events, showing impressive effort and teamwork on the challenging sandy terrain.

Despite the physical demands, students displayed great resilience and enthusiasm, especially on the walk back. The day concluded with high-energy games of dodgeball and capture the flag, leaving everyone with smiles and lasting memories.



## Year 8 Students Experience the Best of Norfolk at Food, Drink & Agriculture Show

*Year 8 students recently enjoyed a fantastic day out at Norfolk's largest food, drink, and agricultural event, an experience that offered a rich insight into local culture and industry—an excellent example of building cultural capital beyond the classroom.*

From towering agricultural machinery (much bigger than expected!) to encounters with livestock including horses, pigs, sheep, and cattle, students were fully immersed in the rural showcase. Highlights of the day included watching best-in-show competitions, horse racing, and an action-packed motocross display.

A particularly exciting moment was meeting TikTok sensation Spudman, who proved to be a popular attraction. Many students purchased jacket potatoes from his stall, got autographs, and even snapped selfies with the social media star. The food and drink experience tent was another hit, with students indulging in a wide selection of cakes and regional treats.

The fun didn't stop there—students also enjoyed the fun fair, which added a vibrant, energetic close to the day. They were given the freedom to explore the show in groups with regular check-ins, encouraging independence and responsibility. Staff were incredibly proud of the students, who behaved brilliantly throughout.

This enriching experience was made even more accessible thanks to a generous grant from the Great Yarmouth Grammar School Foundation, which significantly reduced the cost of the trip and allowed more students to take part. A huge thank you to the Foundation for helping make such a memorable day possible.





# Enterprise in Action: summer Fete '25

Summer Fete  
Unites Ormiston  
Venture Academy  
in Celebration and  
Creativity.

The annual Summer Fete at Ormiston Venture Academy proved to be more than just a day of fun in the sun—it was a showcase of student enterprise, creativity, and teamwork, bringing the entire school community together in a vibrant celebration of entrepreneurial spirit.

Students from every PL (Personalised Learning) group embraced the challenge of designing, organising, and running their own stalls, all with the aim of raising funds for the Academy's Guilds Programme. From concept to execution, the event gave students hands-on experience in budgeting, marketing, customer service, and teamwork—key business and employability skills that will serve them well in future endeavours.

The variety of stalls was as impressive as it was entertaining. Favourites included "Guess the Teacher from the Baby Photo," a fiercely competitive penalty shootout, and a sweet selection of homemade cookies, cakes, and fizzy drinks. Traditional games such as the ever-popular "Welly Wanging" delighted visitors young and old, while the tombola, temporary tattoos, and "Guess How Many Sweets in the Jar" drew consistent crowds.

One of the standout successes of the day was Miabella's stall, serving up freshly made waffles with a range of tempting toppings—quickly becoming a must-visit for students and staff alike. Meanwhile, the "Soak the Teacher (or Student!)" stall proved to be a crowd-pleaser, with queues of eager participants and plenty of laughter.



The entertainment didn't stop at the stalls. Students Harley and Naledi captivated the audience with live musical performances, while Venture Vibe—the Academy's own radio station—kept energy levels high with a soundtrack of student-selected hits.

As the sun shone and the cash registers jingled, students eagerly counted their profits, gaining valuable insight into financial literacy and entrepreneurial thinking. The festive atmosphere, combined with purposeful learning, made the day both meaningful and memorable.

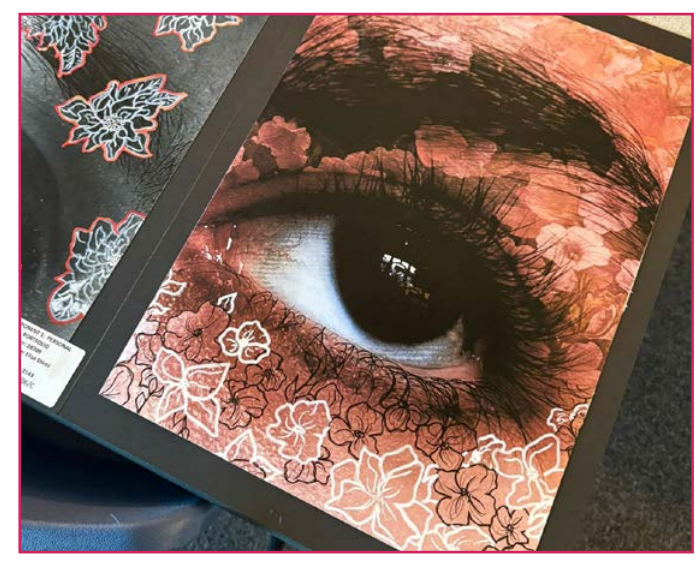
"The Summer Fete is a highlight of our calendar," said a member of staff. "It's incredible to see the creativity, leadership, and confidence our students display when given the opportunity to take ownership of something from start to finish. It truly brings the whole Academy together."

As profits rolled in to support the Guilds Programme, the Summer Fete once again reaffirmed Ormiston Venture Academy's commitment to fostering real-world skills through enriching, student-led experiences.



# Creativity in Full Bloom: CREATE Show 2025 Wows Audiences

Venture Academy once again placed creativity centre stage at its highly anticipated CREATE Show 2025—an annual exhibition celebrating the remarkable talents and achievements of students across the arts throughout the academic year.



Anna Mallory, Head of the Create Faculty, praised the collective effort behind the exhibition, saying:

"The quality of the work in all areas blows me away. This year, both students and staff have truly outdone themselves. It's a real testament to their creativity, resilience, and passion."

Assistant Principal Mr McNally echoed this sentiment, highlighting the dedication of the entire Create team:

*"The success of this evening is thanks to the incredible hard work of our teachers and support staff. I'd particularly like to recognise Mrs Roper-Cornwell, whose tireless efforts made this event the triumph it was."*

The Academy's corridors and teaching spaces were transformed into a vibrant gallery of exceptional student work, with striking visual art, intricate photography, and innovative textiles installations on full display. Visitors—including members of the public, families, current students, and proud alumni—were captivated by the skill, creativity, and dedication evident in every piece.

Guests were welcomed with glasses of non-alcoholic bubbly and treated to an elegant spread of canapés, created and thoughtfully served by students. As visitors explored the Create corridor, they were serenaded by talented solo vocalists, their performances adding a rich musical backdrop to the evening.

The textiles work stood out as a particular highlight, with guests pausing to admire the craftsmanship and detail on display. Elsewhere, the music room burst to life with an energetic performance from the school band, showcasing both technical ability and flair. The dance students, dressed in vivid colours, brought dynamism and joy to the evening with performances that left audiences truly impressed.

The event also marked a heartfelt reunion, as several Venture alumni returned to celebrate the continued growth of the Create faculty and support the next generation of young artists and performers.

With its fusion of artistic excellence, community spirit, and student celebration, the CREATE Show 2025 once again affirmed Ormiston Venture Academy's commitment to nurturing talent, expression, and pride in the creative arts.





# Celebrating Student Excellence: Venture Academy Hosts Annual Summer BBQ

Ormiston Venture Academy recently hosted its much-anticipated Annual Summer BBQ, bringing together students from all year groups to celebrate exceptional attendance and exemplary behaviour.

Set amidst bright summer skies on the Academy grounds, the event provided a well-deserved moment of recognition for students' hard work and commitment throughout the academic year.

The celebration featured a lively programme of activities designed to foster community spirit and friendly competition. Highlights included a spirited Tug of War challenge led by Mr McNally, a dynamic game of rounders overseen by Mrs Perry, and an exhilarating go-kart racing course coordinated by Mr Doggett. The ever-popular Hot Potato game proved to be a crowd favourite, with students enthusiastically participating — some ending up delightfully soaked in the process.

Central to the event was a traditional barbecue feast, with Principal Mr Gilbert-Barnham and Vice Principal Mr Richards taking to the grill. Their culinary efforts, including burgers and sausages seasoned with Mr Gilbert-Barnham's signature blend of spices, were met with great enthusiasm by students and staff alike.

Miss Latchford, reflecting on the day's success, remarked:

**"This event serves not only as a celebration, but as an expression of gratitude. Our students have demonstrated remarkable resilience and dedication over the past year, and it is a privilege to honour their achievements in such a joyful and inclusive way."**

The Annual Summer BBQ has become a cherished tradition at Ormiston Venture Academy, marking the end of the school year with warmth, camaraderie, and celebration. With an atmosphere filled with laughter and pride, the event underscored the Academy's continued commitment to recognising and rewarding student excellence.



Year 9 Take on  
the Outdoors at...

**HAUTBOIS  
ACTIVITY CENTRE**



Over two action-packed days, the PE team had the pleasure of taking 112 Year 9 students to the fantastic Hautbois Activity Centre, where they threw themselves into a wide range of Outdoor Adventure Activities — including kayaking, climbing, and more!

The purpose of the trip was twofold: to offer students a chance to step outside of the classroom and try something new in a natural setting, and to give a 'hands-on' insight into the OAA (Outdoor and Adventurous Activities) unit that forms part of the Sport Studies course in Year 10.

Students showed incredible enthusiasm as they took on a range of physical and mental challenges. Whether it was paddling confidently across the river, scaling a climbing wall, or learning how to recover a capsized kayak from the water, their resilience and ambition shone through.



Throughout the trip, students proudly represented the Academy by demonstrating our core 7 virtues — especially resilience, ambition, and teamwork. Many overcame personal challenges, including conquering a fear of heights or embracing an unfamiliar activity with confidence.

PE staff were incredibly proud of the group:

"Students who attended the trip had a great experience trying a range of different Outdoor Adventure Activities, which we hope has opened their eyes to new forms of physical activity that they might pursue in the future. A massive well done to everyone who took part!"

It was a fantastic opportunity to build confidence, push personal limits, and explore the outdoors in a fun and supportive environment — and one we're sure students will remember for years to come.



## Diary Dates 2025-2026

### September 2025

Thursday 25th September – Year 6 Open Evening – 5pm – 7pm

### October 2025

Friday 17th October – OAT Training Day

Thursday 23rd October – Academic Review Day +  
Careers Fair - 3.10pm – 7.30pm

Friday 24th October – Students break for half term 2.55pm

Monday 27th October – Friday 31st October - Half term

### November 2025

Monday 3rd November – Students return to the academy

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

### December 2025

Friday 5th December – OAT Training Day

Wednesday 10th December – Year 11 Parents Evening 3.10pm – 7.30pm

Monday 15th December – A Merry Little Christmas Party 3.30pm – 5pm

Wednesday 18th December – Christmas Jumper & Christmas Dinner day

Friday 15th December – Christmas Fayre

Friday 20th December – Students break for Christmas at 12.20pm

Monday 22nd December – Friday 2nd January 2026 – Christmas break

### January 2026

Monday 5th January – Staff Training Day

Tuesday 6th January – Students return to the academy at 8.25am

Thursday 22nd January – Class of 2025 Graduation 6pm – 8pm

## Green Heroes in Action: Venture Students Earn Prestigious Eco-Schools Green Flag!

Ormiston Venture Academy is buzzing with pride as its student-led sustainability squad has clinched the internationally acclaimed Eco-Schools Green Flag—a shining symbol of their dedication to protecting the planet and inspiring change far beyond the classroom.

This academic year, Venture's passionate students took sustainability to the next level, transforming ideas into impact and turning their academy into a hub of environmental action. Their mission? To make their school, and the world, a greener place—and they've delivered in style.

The Eco-Schools programme, a global movement active in over 100 countries, has been empowering young changemakers since 1994. In England alone, it reaches over 1 million students annually, encouraging them to lead projects that tackle real-world environmental issues. At Venture, students seized this opportunity and ran with it—making their mark in a truly unforgettable way.

Guided by staff member Mr. Spencer Doggett and supported by Jo Robson from Ormiston Academies Trust (OAT), the newly formed Eco-Committee followed Eco-Schools' dynamic seven-step framework. From the very first environmental audit to designing a powerful year-long action plan, their journey has been nothing short of inspiring.

"We meet every Friday afternoon," shared Mr. Doggett. "Jo Robson has been instrumental in supporting the team, and together we've achieved so much this year—running school-wide assemblies, launching a 'Cut Your Carbon' campaign, picking litter, planting 210 trees, and reintroducing the popular 'Walking and Wheeling Wednesday' this May. And the cherry on top? We secured £10,000 in funding for a brand-new Eco Garden—and it's already taking shape!"

The team's incredible efforts have caught national attention. Adam Flint, Eco-Schools England Manager, praised their impact:

"Each year, we're blown away by the energy, creativity, and commitment of young people like those at Venture. If everyone approached climate action like these students, we'd solve the crisis in no time. At Keep Britain Tidy, we're proud to award them the Green Flag in recognition of their brilliant work."

Want to follow in their footsteps or learn more about the Eco-Schools programme? Visit [www.eco-schools.org.uk](http://www.eco-schools.org.uk) and start your own green journey today!

## Year 10 Geographers Explore

### Gorleston's Urban & Coastal Landscapes



The Geography department recently led an exciting and enriching fieldwork trip for 80 Year 10 students, as part of their GCSE Geography studies.

Over the course of two days, students had the opportunity to apply their classroom learning in a real-world context by investigating the urban and coastal environments in and around Gorleston-on-Sea.

The fieldwork was split into two key areas of study: urban geography and coastal management. In Gorleston's urban centre, students worked collaboratively to complete Environmental Quality Surveys. These surveys allowed them to assess the changing nature of the town's built environment, providing valuable insights into urban planning, regeneration, and quality of life.

On the coast, students focused their investigations on the effectiveness of coastal management strategies. They visited both Gorleston and nearby Hopton beaches, measuring beach width and recording visible signs of erosion. This hands-on work helped students evaluate the impact of human intervention on coastal processes, reinforcing key curriculum concepts in a practical setting.

Matthew Sutton, Head of Geography, praised the students for their approach to the fieldwork. "I was impressed with the maturity shown by the students across both days of fieldwork and the quality of work students have produced," he said.

The trip not only deepened students' understanding of geographical theory but also gave them a valuable experience in teamwork, data collection, and critical analysis. The Geography department looks forward to supporting students as they now apply their findings in the classroom and prepare for their GCSE assessments.



## Year 10 Students Complete DofE in Baconsthorpe

Over a packed and adventurous weekend, Venture's Year 10 students successfully completed their Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award assessments in the scenic setting of Baconsthorpe.

Spending two nights away from home, the group camped out on Thursday and Friday nights, immersing themselves in the full DofE experience.

As part of their assessment, students were required to demonstrate a range of outdoor skills including map reading, navigating through checkpoints, and being fully self-sufficient — cooking their own meals and setting up their own tents. The weekend tested their independence, endurance, and teamwork.

The participating students — Imogen, Hayden, Aman, Dylan, Keiron, Nma, Erin, Litvin, Pritisha, Sophia, Mahy, Annabelle, Eloise, Izabelle, Imogen, Emilija, and Nithana — rose to the challenge with great determination. Over the two-day expedition, they hiked and navigated for a minimum of six hours each day, showing impressive levels of resilience and collaboration.

All students should be incredibly proud of their efforts. Completing the DofE Bronze assessment is no small feat, and each individual demonstrated commendable spirit and perseverance.



A huge congratulations to all who took part — you did Venture proud!





# Glamour & Talent Shine at

Glamour, excitement, and an abundance of talent filled the air at Ormiston Venture Academy on Thursday, 10th 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.

Venture Star Awards 2025

The 2025 Outstanding Achievement Award winner was none other than Aradhya, a brilliant student who has excelled across the curriculum and beyond it.

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 organisations, including

EE Green, the Pavilion Theatre, LG Perfect, Gorleston Football Club, Haven Wild Duck, NCFC Community Sports Foundation, Norfolk County Council Library Service, Crazy Hippo Crochet, Folkes Plant & Aggregates, King Fisher Boxing Club and Top Body Gym.

Several of the sponsors, recognising 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.

*Thank you to all of the local companies for their support for the Venture Stars 2025 event.*



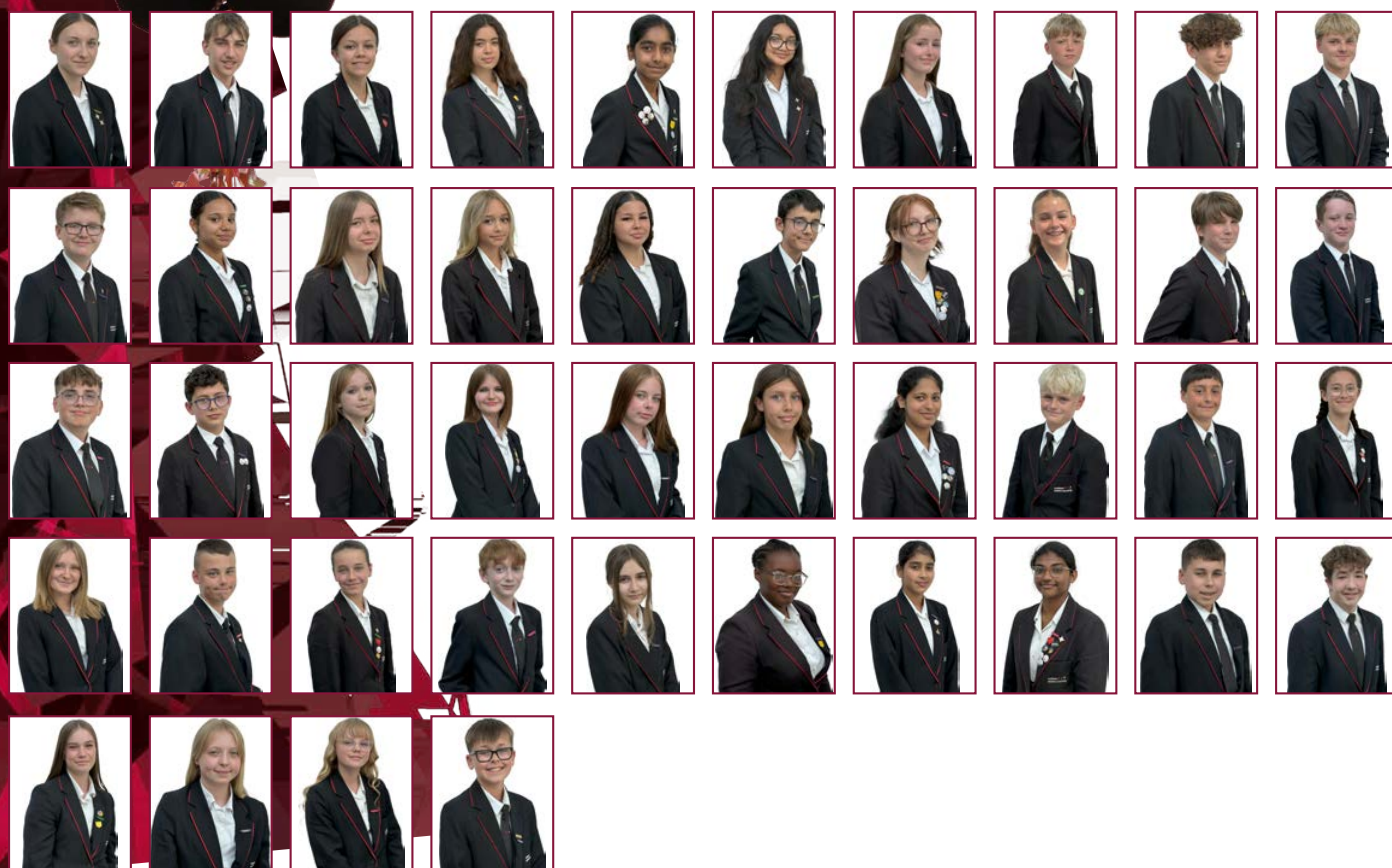




One notable guest at the event was Ormiston Venture Alumni Kyle Kent. Kyle shared his incredible experience in the military that he has had since leaving school, working as a cyber engineer, paratrooper, physical training instructor and section commander. He gave some wonderfully inspirational advice to students about resilience and how to face your fears. He is now in the early stages of a career in acting and has appeared in some notable television series including The Agency on Paramount Plus and again reflected on his experience in taking on new challenges helping to inspire our Venture Stars.

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 Kyle Kent for coming back and giving back to the academy and helping to inspire our students.

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.



### Special Commendations went to:

**Ultimate Sports Personality of the Year Award:** Ava

**Innovative Scientist of the Year Award:** Izabelle

**The English Laureate Award:** Aradhya

**The First Class Computer Science Award:** Izabelle

**Outstanding Historian Award:** Jenson

**Outstanding Geographer Award:** Dylan

**Masterchef Award:** Adelaide

**Master Mathematician Award:** Areeba

**Outstanding Linguist Award:** Areeba

**Outstanding Performance Award:** Naledi

**Venture Craftsperson Award:** Neha

**Outstanding Visual Award:** Anabelle

**Extended Learning Award:** Max

**Venture CASH Award:** Aeron

**Venture Spirit Award:** Jack

**Achievement Beyond School Award:** Jasper

**OAT Outstanding Achievement Award:** Aradhya

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.



## Walking & Wheeling Wednesdays

**Ormiston Venture Academy's commitment to sustainability and student leadership continues to shine through the return of its much-loved Walking & Wheeling Wednesdays campaign.**

Building on the success of last year, the initiative is back for 2025 with renewed energy, creative ideas, and enthusiastic participation from students and staff alike.

At the heart of this initiative is the Union of Venture Students (UVS), whose members are proudly taking part once again in the Active Travel Ambassador (ATA) program.

This year's campaign involved five training sessions, a high-impact presentation, and the opportunity to pitch ideas at the regional Campaign Junction Event, where students shared their vision for greener, more active travel solutions for the academy community.

With a clear focus on encouraging environmentally friendly travel to and from school, the UVS chose to dedicate their campaign to revitalizing Walking and Wheeling Wednesdays throughout the four Wednesdays in May.

**Their goal is simple: to spark lasting change while making the journey to school more fun, inclusive, and climate-conscious.**



**Highlights of the 2025 Campaign:**

#### • Spot Prizes:

Weekly surprises are awarded to students who walk, cycle, or scoot to school every Wednesday, adding an exciting element of recognition and reward.

#### • Golden, Silver, and Bronze Bike Locks:

These special locks are placed on three randomly selected bikes each Wednesday, with their riders receiving unique prizes. Congratulations to Toby W, Harry R, and Archie H, the first three winners of the year!

#### • Ice Cream for Participation:

The PL (Personalised Learning) group from each college with the highest number of active travellers wins a sweet treat—ice cream for the whole group!

#### • Staff Involvement:

To ensure the whole academy is involved, UVS has donated an extra £40 for staff incentives. Four coffee vouchers are up for grabs to encourage walking, wheeling, or car-sharing among staff during the summer term.

One exciting new addition to the campaign this year is the involvement of Vinny, the school mascot, who greets students arriving on foot or wheels each Wednesday morning—bringing smiles and spreading encouragement at the school gates.

**"It is amazing to see our Union of Venture Students (UVS) working as a team once more and making our Walking and Wheeling Wednesday initiative successful in 2025,"** said a proud academy representative.

**"This year, we have even got our Mascot Vinny involved, welcoming students who are travelling actively to school."**

Walking & Wheeling Wednesdays aren't just about one month of active travel—they are about building habits and community. Through creativity, teamwork, and determination, the ATAs are helping shape a more sustainable future for Ormiston Venture Academy.

**Let's keep walking, wheeling, and working towards a greener tomorrow!**





# PROM '25

## Venture's Prom at Park Hill Hotel: A Fabulous Send-Off for a Fantastic Year Group.

A standout moment came when the DJ turned up the volume and the dance floor came alive. A playlist curated by the students included everything from timeless classics to modern hits—with "Mr Brightside" by The Killers taking the crown as the most requested track of the night.

Mr O'Donoghue didn't hold back, leading a full-on dance-off (complete with the worm!) and helping kick off a conga line that wrapped around the entire venue. The energy and camaraderie on display were electric.

The VW camper-style photo booth added extra fun, with students posing with props and snapping memories with their friends. These photos will feature in a prom memory book for students to keep—a lasting reminder of this special evening.

The event was made even more special thanks to the incredible staff team, the support of the Park Hill Hotel, and most importantly, the unwavering encouragement of our wonderful parents and carers, who have been with our students every step of the way.

As the music faded and the final photos were taken, it was clear that the Venture Prom was not just a celebration—it was a moment of transition. A beautiful goodbye to five years of hard work, growth, and unforgettable memories.

On a warm summer evening, Year 11 students from Ormiston Venture Academy came together for a truly unforgettable celebration—their much-anticipated prom, hosted at the beautiful Park Hill Hotel. With around 110 students in attendance, it was the perfect way to mark the end of their school journey in style.

From the moment they arrived, it was clear this would be a night to remember. A free welcome drink greeted students on arrival, many stepping out of an array of vehicles—including a vintage ice cream truck (from which Miley and Emily made a cool entrance, cones in hand!) and even an HGV lorry driven in by Aeryn—showing off the creativity and fun spirit of the year group.

Dressed to impress, students walked the red carpet and were soon tucking into a delicious BBQ feast featuring burgers, sausages, and a full salad bar. There was no shortage of sweet treats either—Ellese Bakes provided an irresistible spread of cakes and brownies, which completely disappeared by the end of the night! A well-stocked sweetie bar added a sugar-fuelled boost to keep the party going strong.

The venue itself was transformed into a glamorous celebration space thanks to the incredible efforts of the Mr Miles, Miss Tongate, Miss Clemence, Mrs Cockrill and Mrs Bridges who worked tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure every detail was perfect. Their hard work created an atmosphere filled with laughter, energy, and joy.

**Vice Principal Mr Dave Richards summed it up best:**

"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 how they've been all year, and we're excited to see what incredible achievements and bright futures lie ahead for the..."

**the class of 2025**

Of course, no prom would be complete without a few awards! Students voted for their peers in categories that captured the spirit of the evening:

- Prom King: Kayden
- Prom Queen: Sienna
- Best Dressed: Suruthiga & Harvey



# Venture Students Shine in 2025 GCSE Results

**There were smiles, cheers, and proud moments across Venture Academy this morning as students received their well-earned GCSE results.**

Located in Gorleston-on-Sea and part of Ormiston Academies Trust, the academy continues to demonstrate the power of high expectations, exceptional teaching, and a deep belief in every student's potential. This year's GCSE results reflect not only academic excellence but also the personal growth, character, and determination that define the Venture community.

The whole school community has come together to celebrate — not just the numbers on a page, but the journeys behind them: the challenges overcome, the progress made, and the futures now open to each student.

We are exceptionally proud of every student with just some of the individual success stories including:

Diva Nagda faced extremely difficult personal circumstances in the lead-up to her exams, yet never lost focus on her long-term goals. Her resilience paid off, achieving three grade 9s and eight grade 8s — a testament to five years of grit, ambition, and commitment. She now continues confidently onto her chosen post-16 pathway.

Dylan Peach, Head Boy, added another chapter to his family's Venture story. With his older brother Floyd recently graduating from Exeter University, Dylan followed with top results of his own — six grade 9s and three grade 8s — and will go on to study science and maths at East Norfolk Sixth Form College.

A true role model for younger students, Dylan's leadership and academic achievements have made 2025 a year to remember.

Our students have shared years of relentless focus on engaging in a world-class education built on care, ambition, and inclusion. The results this week are just one more reminder of what's possible when students are seen, supported, and stretched to achieve their very best.

Simon Gilbert-Barnham, Principal of Ormiston Venture Academy, said:

*Today is one of these days where the sense of pride is almost overwhelming. The success of our students — not just in terms of grades, but in their growth, resilience and character — is everything we stand for at Venture. Their achievements are a testament to their hard work, the dedication of our staff, and the unwavering support of our families.*

*"This is a moment to celebrate not just what our students have achieved. The future is incredibly bright, and these young people are ready to lead the way."*

# Results Day 2025

# Get in!

# Smashed it!

# Reading Results

# Nailed it!

# Proud! Parents



## We kicked off this year's Summer School with Monday Funday – and it was exactly that!

Students bounced, climbed, and battled their way through an inflatable obstacle course, wrecking ball, gladiator duel, and even took on the (nearly) impossible unclimbable ladder.

The fun didn't stop there – throughout the week, students got stuck into a whole range of activities, from cooking up tasty treats, exploring their creative side with arts & crafts, and testing their problem-solving skills in our engineering challenge, to learning new languages, playing sports, and taking on team-building tasks.

We were also lucky to welcome local tennis coach Sam, who got everyone rallying and serving like pros!



Students were grouped with their new PL peers, helping them start building friendships that will carry into the new school year.

To round off an amazing week, our principal and vice principal fired up the grill for a big summer BBQ – bringing together students, parents, and staff to celebrate all the fun, learning, and friendships made.



**SUMMER**  
**School**  
**2025**

**What a Week!**



*Thank you to everyone who joined us  
we can't wait to do it all again next*



## Rise & Shine with Venture Breakfast!

We're thrilled to launch Venture Breakfast—a brand-new FREE breakfast offer available to every student in our academy, in partnership with the national Magic Breakfast scheme.

Whether you're an early riser or just need a few extra minutes of calm before class, Venture Breakfast is here to help you start your day the right way—with great food, good company, and a welcoming atmosphere.

## What's on the Menu?

Enjoy a healthy, nutritious breakfast with a variety of tasty options:

**Bakery items:** Bagels, Toast, Crumpets  
**Cereals:** A rotating mix of popular favourites

**Hot choices:** Baked Beans (on their own or on toast) and warming Porridge

Students are encouraged to prepare their own breakfast, helping to build independence and confidence—supported by our friendly staff and Venture Ambassadors.



## A Morning Community Like No Other

We've transformed our café into a relaxed community hub—a space to enjoy:

- Music
- Morning news
- Chats with friends
- Calm areas and creative activities like colouring.

Whether you're in the mood to socialise, relax, or just enjoy a peaceful start, Venture Breakfast has something for you.

## Why Breakfast Matters

Research shows that a good breakfast doesn't just fill your stomach—it fuels your mind: Schools offering breakfast see 26 fewer half-days of absence per class each year.

Students receiving a Magic Breakfast make, on average, two months' additional academic progress.

A University of Leeds study found that breakfast eaters achieve two GCSE grades higher, on average, than those who skip it.

## FREE VENTURE BREAKFAST

Come and join our Venture Breakfast—a completely FREE breakfast offer for every student in our academy, in partnership with the national Magic Breakfast scheme.

### WHAT'S ON THE MENU?



**Bakery Items**  
Bagels, Toast, Crumpets



**Cereals**  
A rotating mix of popular options



**Hot Choices**  
Baked Beans (on their own or on toast) & Porridge

### WHEN & WHERE?

Every weekday morning from 7:30am – 8:15am

Venture Café

This is a 100% FREE provision—no booking required. Just drop in and grab some breakfast, you can even save it for break!

### WHY BREAKFAST MATTERS

Schools offering a breakfast provision see 26 fewer half-days of absence per class (of 30 students per year).

Research shows students receiving a Magic Breakfast make, on average, two months' additional academic progress.



## When?

Every weekday morning,  
7:30am – 8:15am

## Where?

School café

## Cost?

**100% FREE!** No booking needed—just drop in, grab a bagel, and you're good to go!

You can even save it for breaktime!

Keep an look-out for this flyer around the Academy with more details, this is a winning start to anyone's day...

Start your morning with energy, focus, and a full stomach—Venture Breakfast is open and ready to welcome you.

**See you bright & early!**

## college clash

## Go Karting Races Take Off with a Roar!

Thanks to the success of our Active Travel Campaign last year—and its popular return in May—we were able to fund six brand-new go karts for the college.



**Start your engines?!**

These sleek, speedy machines made their debut at the first race event of the year, held earlier this term.

The track buzzed with excitement as all college teams lined up to compete, joined by a special Year 11 kart (piloted by enthusiastic Year 10 students) and a staff-only kart that proved surprisingly fast.

With UVS in charge of the official scoring, the competition was fierce but friendly. In the end, the staff kart claimed victory in most of the races—though students gave them a run for their money!

Around 50 students and staff members took part in the thrilling event, showing fantastic team spirit and a love of active, fun transport. Here's to more racing ahead!

## They're Off!



**A close 'college' finish was on the cards!**





# Achieve Indi-Mai

## Indi-Mai's Road to Crufts 2026

Following in the footsteps of both her mum and older brother Ryan, Indi-Mai has already made a name for herself in the world of dog agility. Her journey began in August 2023 when her mum gave her the opportunity to run with their Jack Russell, Mitsi. From that moment on, Indi dedicated countless hours to training—often practising her movements in the garden even without a dog, to master the skills required. In July 2024, she began working with Murphy, a fox red Labrador, and alongside Mitsi, has gone on to win numerous rosettes and trophies in competitions. Her dedication and natural talent quickly began to shine through.

All of us at Achieve College are incredibly proud of Indi's accomplishments and dedication. We will be following her journey to Crufts with great excitement and look forward to cheering her on during the televised stages next year.

## Principal AWARD – Naledi

Naledi has achieved 100% attendance, consistently demonstrating exceptional effort and strong grades across all her subjects. With an amazing attitude to learning, she is always willing to help others and sets a brilliant example to her peers. Outside of the classroom, she is a talented musician and a member of the band 'Adolescence', performing both in and out of school at events such as Summer Fetes—both with her band and as a solo artist. Her commitment, reliability, and creativity make her a true asset to the school community.



# Create Nithana

## Nithana Balances a Full Life with Outstanding Focus and Determination

Nithana leads a wonderfully full and active life, yet always manages to prioritise her studies with impressive consistency. Each week, she balances swimming and piano lessons alongside a busy school schedule that includes Further Maths and Athletics Club. A keen reader and lifelong learner, she's constantly seeking opportunities to grow.

Her academic performance continues to shine, and she has her sights set on a high-powered career after university — a goal she's clearly working hard to achieve.

Nithana is also known for her kindness, helpfulness, and welcoming nature. With excellent communication skills and a mature approach to everything she does, she is a valued member of the Venture community. We're excited to see all she accomplishes in Year 11 and beyond — the future is very bright for Nithana!

## Principal AWARD – Finlay

Finlay has made an impressive start to Year 7, already establishing himself as a standout student within the Venture community. A talented footballer, he has represented both the Academy and Gorleston Football Club, consistently excelling in defence with skill and determination.

Always smiling and full of enthusiasm, Finlay is a pleasure to teach — a sentiment shared by all his teachers. A fantastic start to Year 7 — well done, Finlay!



# Innovate Ella

## Ella is an exceptional student who has consistently demonstrated excellence both academically and in sport.

Achieving a strong set of results across the board, with grades 7s, 8s, and 9s in multiple subjects, she is a hardworking and high-achieving individual.

In PE, Ella has been a key representative for Venture, performing at a high level in football, netball, cross country, and athletics, excelling in every sport she takes part in. She was part of the Year 7 athletics team that achieved first place and also played a pivotal role in the OAT Sports Cup win.

Outside of the Academy, Ella continues to shine — she dances with Jane King Dance School, plays football for Yarmouth Town Girls, and impressively also plays in the U14 Boys Bohemians team, playing up a year in both squads.

**Ella's determination, talent, and attitude make her a true standout.**



## Principal AWARD – Jorja

Jorja is an outstanding all-rounder who consistently shines both academically and in sport. She is a vital member of the school's netball, football, and athletics teams, where her skill, determination, and team-first attitude truly stand out. Outside of school, she continues to excel, having completed a strong season with Bohemians and now progressing to play for Great Yarmouth Town — a testament to her passion and commitment to sport. In the classroom, Jorja brings that same energy and dedication, showing excellent effort and focus in every subject. Her mature, hardworking approach makes her a fantastic role model for her peers.



# Aspire Emily

## Emily's Dance Success Shines in Norwich Competition

Emily, a talented Year 7 student, recently took part in an exciting dance competition in Norwich, where she performed as part of a high-energy commercial group routine to the song "Fireball." Dancing alongside 12 other skilled performers, Emily's group delivered a dynamic, crowd-pleasing routine that earned them a well-deserved first place in their category. Congratulations, Emily! We can't wait to see what you achieve next.

## Principal AWARD Lewis – A Truly Deserving Award Winner

Lewis is an exceptional young man whose maturity and positive attitude shine through in everything he does. He consistently gives 110% effort, showing real dedication and pride in his work.

Always cheerful and kind, Lewis is the first to offer help to others, making him a valued and respected member of the school community. His passion for Maths is clear and reflected in his outstanding grades.

He also has a real enthusiasm for Hospitality and Catering, often speaking proudly about the dishes he's created. It has been a privilege to watch Lewis grow over the past few years into the confident, hardworking and thoughtful young person he is today. Well done, Lewis — you truly deserve this award. We are so proud of you.





# Achieve

*A Hub of Academic Excellence*

**At Venture Academy, Achieve College is easily recognised by the bright blue badges proudly worn by its students.**

Led by Assistant Principal Mr. Doggett and College Leader Mr. Ives, Achieve College focuses on three key subject areas: English, Humanities (History, Geography, and Religious Education), and Modern Foreign Languages. Each area is supported by a dedicated tutor group, fostering a strong sense of identity and subject pride.

We are committed to delivering a world-class education, where every student is encouraged to become a confident, knowledgeable subject specialist. Our broad and ambitious curriculum is designed to inspire curiosity, deepen understanding, and prepare students for success in all areas of study.

English offers students the chance to explore a wide range of texts, from Shakespeare and pre-1900 literature to modern novels and poetry. Lessons encourage creative writing and critical thinking. Outside the classroom, students take part in theatre trips—such as a recent Year 7 visit to see Macbeth—and attend events at the Globe Theatre. The English team also leads school-wide celebrations for World Book Day and exciting inter-college competitions like the Poetry Slam and Spellathon, which even involves local primary schools.

In Modern Foreign Languages, students choose between French and Spanish, both popular options at GCSE. Lessons cover topics such as identity, culture, school life, future plans, and global issues. Students are encouraged to take part in debating competitions and may earn a 'Master Linguist' badge for outstanding effort and achievement. Educational trips to Disneyland Paris, Belgium, and Madrid help bring language learning to life. We were sad to say goodbye to Ms. Webb, who has taken on an exciting role teaching in Japan, but are thrilled to welcome Ms. Mills, who has already made a fantastic impact.

Humanities subjects offer rich learning experiences. In History, students explore key periods such as the Norman Conquest, the Victorian Empire, the American Revolution, and apartheid in South Africa. In Geography, they study environmental systems, climate change, natural hazards, and global population trends. Fieldwork is an essential part of learning, with local trips to the coast and international visits to places like Poland and WWI battlefields.

Religious Education is taught as part of the Humanities curriculum in Years 7 to 9, covering major world religions and ethical issues. In Year 9, students study morality, while Year 10 students explore topics in ethics.



**We're excited to announce that, starting in 2025–26, Religious Education will be available as a full GCSE subject.**

Achieve College is a vibrant and inspiring part of Venture Academy. With passionate teachers, a wide range of enrichment opportunities, and a clear focus on academic excellence, we are proud of everything our students continue to achieve.



# Aspire

**A Year of Growth, Challenge & Achievement**

It's been a fantastic year for Aspire College, where students continue to thrive and succeed across both Mathematics and Computer Science. Our dedicated staff are incredibly proud of the enthusiasm, effort and excellence shown by all our students this year.

**Mathematics:** Thinking Beyond Numbers

Maths at Venture is more than just equations—it's about exploring patterns, solving problems, and thinking critically. Our carefully developed curriculum supports and challenges students at every level, helping them grow into confident and capable mathematicians.

Maths is a vital part of everyday life, with real-world applications that range from weather forecasting to architecture, engineering, and finance. At Ormiston Venture, we aim to develop subject specialists, and many of our students go on to study maths at a higher level after Year 11. For those who enjoy stretching themselves even further, we offer GCSE Further Maths and GCSE Statistics—both popular choices with high-performing students.

We also invite guest speakers into school to show how maths is used in various careers, and our external trips allow students to see mathematical applications in action—bringing the subject to life in exciting and practical ways.

Looking ahead, our maths team is already planning more enriching and inspiring opportunities for the next academic year.

**Computer Science:** Innovation, Creativity and Real-World Skills

It's also been a standout year for Computer Science. Our students have covered a broad and engaging curriculum including E-Safety, Programming, Digital Media, Cyber Security, Hardware and Software, Networking, and Data Representation. Lessons combine theory with hands-on experiences to create an interactive, relevant, and enjoyable learning environment.

This year, we were proud to offer three major trips in Computer Science, with almost 200 students taking part. Visits to The Cambridge Centre for Computing History, Silverstone and Bletchley Park were all hugely successful. At Cambridge, students explored the evolution of technology and took a close look at the "Influential Women in Computing History" exhibit. At Silverstone, pupils had an insight into the highly advanced computer systems in F1 alongside the rich history of racing. At Bletchley Park, students gained valuable insights into code-breaking and how it relates to today's data protection and cyber security practices.



These visits not only enrich classroom learning, but also help develop students' cultural capital, expanding their understanding of how computing shapes the world around them.

We were also thrilled to introduce our new iMedia GCSE this year. This creative and technical course allows students to design and produce digital products such as websites, game apps, and marketing materials. It's an exciting addition that bridges creativity and computing, linking closely with subjects like Art, Graphic Design, and Game Design. Unsurprisingly, it has proven to be a very popular choice among students.

**Looking Ahead**

As we prepare for the next academic year, the Aspire College team is excited to build on this year's success. With more opportunities to explore, create and innovate, we look forward to another year filled with curiosity, creativity, and confidence in both Mathematics and Computer Science.





# Create

## A Celebration of Talent & Imagination

Create College is a vibrant and inspiring part of Venture Academy, bringing together a team of passionate, skilled staff and highly creative students.

This college encompasses a wide range of subjects including Art, Catering, Music, Performing Arts, Photography, and Textiles. These areas are not only taught to a high standard within the academy, but also showcased through national competitions and collaborations with other Ormiston Academy Trust schools.

Create College is a place where creativity flourishes, and both staff and students thrive in a joyful, energetic environment. At Key Stage 3, students enjoy a broad and balanced curriculum that introduces them to visual arts, performance, and technology-based subjects in greater depth. This rich foundation inspires many students to pursue these subjects further.

By Key Stage 4, Create College offers a range of popular GCSE and BTEC courses. A large number of students choose to study at least one creative subject from Year 10 onwards, achieving outstanding results and often going on to pursue further education or training in their chosen area.

Many have progressed to sixth forms, colleges, or apprenticeships in creative industries, including prestigious opportunities like engineering apprenticeships or scholarships at Gresham's School. Past students have gone on to inspiring destinations such as Callum Cooke, who studied Fine Art at Oxford University, and Daisy Abbots-Freeman, who continued her dance training at Colchester College.

Create College also plays a major role in the academy's extracurricular life. Students can take part in a wide variety of clubs and activities, including musical and talent show rehearsals, choir and orchestra (Venture Vivace), street dance, and photography clubs. Instrumental and vocal lessons are available through our fantastic peripatetic music team, who bring specialist expertise into the academy.

Mrs. Vincent, College Leader, summed it up best:

**"Our students are simply incredible—and that's made possible by the talented and dedicated team of staff we are so lucky to have in Create College."**



# Innovate

## A Year of Discovery, Challenge, and Achievement

It's been another exciting and successful year for Innovate College, where students have embraced hands-on learning, built new skills, and experienced a wide range of opportunities in Science and Physical Education (PE).

Our dedicated team of staff continues to inspire a love of learning and personal development through a rich, engaging curriculum.

### Science: Curiosity in Action

This year, Science students have enjoyed getting hands-on with practical experiments designed to spark curiosity and deepen understanding. From investigating streamlining with plasticine and wallpaper paste in Year 7, to exploring acids and alkalis in Year 8, and rotating through specialisms in Years 9–11, students are benefiting from high-quality, specialist-led teaching every step of the way.

A particular highlight has been our investment in cutting-edge 3D printing technology. The faculty is now producing custom-designed science equipment, enhancing safety and learning in the classroom. These include redesigned test tube racks, electrolysis stands, and mini quadrats—all helping students explore science more effectively.

Our weekly enrichment clubs and 'College Clash' competitions give students the chance to design their own scientific tools—promoting innovation, collaboration and creative thinking.

### Physical Education:

#### Health, Fitness, and Leadership

Physical Education at Venture is about far more than fitness—it's about nurturing a lifelong love for sport, teamwork, and leadership. Throughout the year, students from Years 7–9 have participated in a wide variety of team and individual sports, developing their skills, confidence, and resilience. These activities are carefully selected to build on primary school learning and connect to the wider community, with many students continuing their journey by joining local sports clubs.



## In Years 10 and 11, students can choose from three tailored PE pathways:

- OCR Cambridge National Sport Studies
- UK Sport Leadership Awards (Level 1 & 2)
- Health and Fitness, leading to a gym instructor qualification

These pathways support our commitment to promoting ambition and preparing students for life beyond school—whether that's further education, careers in the sports industry, or simply making healthy lifestyle choices. Our curriculum is also enhanced by inclusive activities such as orienteering, chosen to reflect the wide range of career paths and sports interests students may pursue. This is all part of our wider aim to nurture talent, promote well-being, and encourage participation in sport post-16.

### Highlights of the Year in PE

- Extra-curricular clubs and teams have been thriving! Football, rugby, netball, and more have seen fantastic engagement from boys and girls alike.
- We were proud to finish 2nd in the Wellesley Athletics Tournament, competing against five other local schools.
- The Venture Games was a standout moment—an all-day sports celebration where every student chose two sports to compete in, rounded off by an unforgettable colour run involving the whole school.
- And most impressively, Ormiston Venture Academy WON the OAT Sports Cup, competing against four other local Ormiston secondary schools. Held at the University of East Anglia, the event included athletics, dodgeball and tug of war. Our students performed brilliantly and showed outstanding teamwork, determination and school spirit throughout the day. A truly proud moment!

### Looking Ahead

We are incredibly proud of our students in Innovate College and all they have achieved this year. With an emphasis on practical learning, personal growth, and preparation for the future, we look forward to another inspiring and impactful year ahead.





## PE Camp at Whitlingham:

*This year's PE Camp at Whitlingham was an unforgettable experience, made even better by the fantastic weather.*

Selected Year 10 students, who had demonstrated outstanding effort and attitude in PE throughout the year, were invited to take part in the trip—and they absolutely rose to the occasion.

From the moment they arrived, students worked brilliantly as a team, showing great cooperation and enthusiasm as they set up their tents. A new feature this year was the BBQ, which added a relaxed and authentic camping vibe that everyone enjoyed.

In the evening, the group gathered around the campfire to roast marshmallows and take part in a lively sports quiz, creating a warm and fun atmosphere. Laughter, teamwork, and friendly competition were all on display.

A major highlight of the weekend was the water sports. Each student took part in two 90-minute sessions—one kayaking and one paddle boarding. Everyone threw themselves into the activities, taking part in games, swapping kayaks and boards, and, of course, getting thoroughly soaked in the process!

Saturday night brought a round of silly eating challenges that had everyone in stitches, rounding off a day full of energy and excitement.

Throughout the weekend, the students represented the school exceptionally well. Two members of the public went out of their way to compliment how polite, respectful, and well-mannered the group was—a proud moment for everyone involved.



## Great at Annual Teatime Athletics Warm-Up Competition



This week, students from Years 7–10 competed in the annual local secondary school athletics warm-up competition, a smaller event designed to prepare athletes for the main athletics day later this term. Though more low-key than the upcoming finals, the competition was packed with passion, new talent, and stand-out performances.

It was a fantastic result for our school, with Year 7 and Year 9 finishing in 1st place, and Year 8 and Year 10 securing 3rd place overall. The event, which featured fewer runners and a limited range of events, gave students a chance to sharpen their skills and experience a real competition atmosphere without the pressure of the full-scale meet.

This was a particularly valuable day for Year 7 students and new athletes, many of whom were stepping into a stadium setting for the first time. The opportunity to compete on the track and in the field gave them a real taste of athletics at a competitive level, and helped build confidence ahead of the bigger event.

Each student was able to take part in one track event and one field event, with the day concluding in exciting relay races that brought out school spirit and team pride. Track events included the 100m, 200m, 300m, 800m, and 1500m. In the field, students competed in the long jump, high jump, shot put, and javelin.

The competition saw plenty of new personal bests and several gold medals, showing just how much progress our athletes are already making. More importantly, it lit a spark in many students, inspiring them to continue training and aiming higher.

There is also a strong connection between our school and GY Athletics Club, and students interested in improving their technique or pursuing athletics more seriously are encouraged to join and train with the club.

***Well done to all our competitors – your effort, focus, and team spirit stood out. This warm-up event was a fantastic start.***

## Venture on Tour!

## [OAT] Sports Cup

**Students from Years 7 to 10 proudly represented Venture Academy at this year's OAT Sports Cup, held at the UEA Sports Park.**

Despite persistent rain and slippery conditions throughout the day, our students showed exceptional resilience, effort, and team spirit.

Five OAT academies competed in the event: Venture, Flegg, CNS, Broadland, and Victory. Each school brought a team of talented and enthusiastic students, with Venture taking five boys and five girls from each year group. Our students competed in a variety of events, starting with track and field disciplines, followed by dodgeball and tug of war. The day concluded with high-energy mixed relays for each year group.

Going into the relays, Broadland held the overall lead. But Venture stormed back with an incredible performance, winning three relay races and coming second in another.



**This fantastic effort pushed us to the top of the leaderboard, securing first place and bringing the OAT Sports Cup home!**

Throughout the day, our Venture students were commended by several members of staff from other schools for their exemplary behaviour and fantastic sportsmanship.

Their positive attitude, teamwork, and determination made them excellent ambassadors for the academy.



Year 7: Aadidhev, Callum, Daniele, Ella, Evie, George, Izzy, Jorja, Kyle, Riley, Skyla

Year 8: Amelia, Codey, Dawson, Ellie, Emilija, Georgia, Joey, Nanya, Reece, Ria, Wesley

Year 9: Ava, Ella, Evie, Jess, JJ, Kelsey, Lexi, Logan, Mason, Nathan, Will

Year 10: Alesha, Aman, Aubrey, Brooke, Dylan H, Dylan T, Jack, Miabella, Reuben, Roxanne, Tia, Tilly, Trinity

A huge thank you to all the students who took part—you represented Venture with pride, and your efforts truly paid off.

***Congratulations on a well-deserved win!***



**Team-V-ALWAYS!**



## Wellesley Athletics Stadium Shines Under the Sun for Local School Games



It was a scorcher at the iconic Wellesley Athletics Stadium in Great Yarmouth, but that didn't stop 550 students from across six local schools from giving it their all in a day of fierce but friendly competition.

With the sun blazing overhead, plenty of water flowing, and Vinny offering his usual enthusiastic support—complete with a blinged-up cap—the atmosphere was electric. Students pushed themselves to their limits in a bid for personal bests, medals, and school glory.

### Outstanding Performances and P/Bs!

The day was packed with jaw-dropping individual efforts, as dozens of students hit new personal bests and claimed top-three finishes. One standout performance came from Aadhidev, who stormed through his events to bring home three gold medals—a phenomenal achievement!

Across the board, athletes demonstrated skill, determination, and sportsmanship. Hundreds of medals were awarded, and every school had moments to celebrate.

The Academy athletes put in a superb collective effort across all year groups:

- Year 7 – 1st place | • Year 8 – 4th place
- Year 9 – 4th place | • Year 10 – 2nd place

Overall Result: 2nd Place, missing out on the top spot by just 40 points—a testament to how close and competitive the day was.

### Pride and Passion

We are so proud of every single athlete who represented the Academy. These students have dedicated hours to training, sharpening their techniques, and building their fitness—and it showed in every event.

Adding to the atmosphere was the fantastic support from our Year 11 students, who came down to cheer on their younger peers and contribute to the day's team spirit. The sense of camaraderie and pride was clear for all to see.

A huge thank you to everyone involved for making the day so special. From staff and coaches to spectators and students, it was a true celebration of local sporting talent. Here's to even greater achievements next year!

