



# ORMISTON DENES ACADEMY

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Dear Parent and Carers,

28<sup>th</sup> February 2025

It was great to see so many of you at the Year 10 Parents Evening last night. Every parent I spoke to was really pleased with how their child was getting on and it was lovely to witness such well-deserved pride.

Students are aware of all homework due by dates, but as a reminder for parents, Sparx Maths Home Learning is set every Wednesday, and due in every Wednesday for all students. Tassomai English, Science, History, Geography and MFL is due every Sunday for all Year 10 and Year 11 students.

We are so proud of how students in all year groups have returned following February half term and have demonstrated they are ready, responsible and respectful. In addition to our existing expectations, in order to maintain cleanliness, protect uniform and show respect for our school environment, from Monday chewing gum will carry an automatic consequence. This should not be a shock to parents or students as it is already a banned item on our policies. Therefore, any student found with chewing gum will face an automatic 30-minute social time detention for the next available slot, as well as immediately disposing of their gum. This aims to ensure that the academy remains clean for all students and staff. If a student refuses to co-operate, this will escalate as per the usual behaviour policy. We hope you can understand why we have taken this decision.

We know that sometimes it can be hard to get our children out of bed in the morning. Some top tips for getting your child ready for school are below:

**1. Preparation is key:**

Encourage your child to pack their school bag the night before, using their timetable to ensure they have everything they need for the next day. Checking for all books, homework, stationery, and required equipment will help them be well-prepared for their lessons.

**2. School uniform:**

Remind your child about the importance of a neat school uniform. Encourage them to fold their uniform neatly after coming home and to keep their tie and school shoes in a safe space, to prevent it from getting lost.

**3. Set an alarm:**

Adequate sleep is essential for a successful school day. Encourage your child to go to bed at a reasonable time and to set an alarm to avoid rushing in the morning, which can lead to unnecessary stress.

**4. Talk about it:**

Life events such as illness or family changes can disrupt your child's routine. Encourage them to communicate with their form tutor or head of year if such situations arise, as they can provide guidance on getting back into a positive routine and can keep teachers informed if needed.

Staying organised and following a good school routine can greatly benefit your child's school experience.



@OrmistonDenes



/OrmistonDenes

Yarmouth Road, Lowestoft NR32 4AH

Tel: 01502 574474

[www.ormistonden.co.uk](http://www.ormistonden.co.uk)

Thank you for your cooperation in helping your child make the most of their time at school. If you have any concerns or queries, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us.

**The Form Time Focus** next week is “Responsible”.

We will be teaching the following **PSHE topics** next week. If you do not wish for your child to participate or have a question relating to the subjects, please contact your child’s Head of Year.

Year 11 – Am I allowed to vote?

Year 10 – How pornography impacts our understanding of consent?

Year 9 – Careers; Unifrog.

Year 8 – What are prescription drugs?

Year 7 – What are the emotional changes in puberty?

**Votes for schools** - This week students have been voting on “Should the UK be a dictatorship?”. If you would like to continue this discussion with your child, please click [here](#) for further resources.

Have a lovely weekend.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kate Williams', written in a cursive style.

**Kate Williams**

**Principal**